

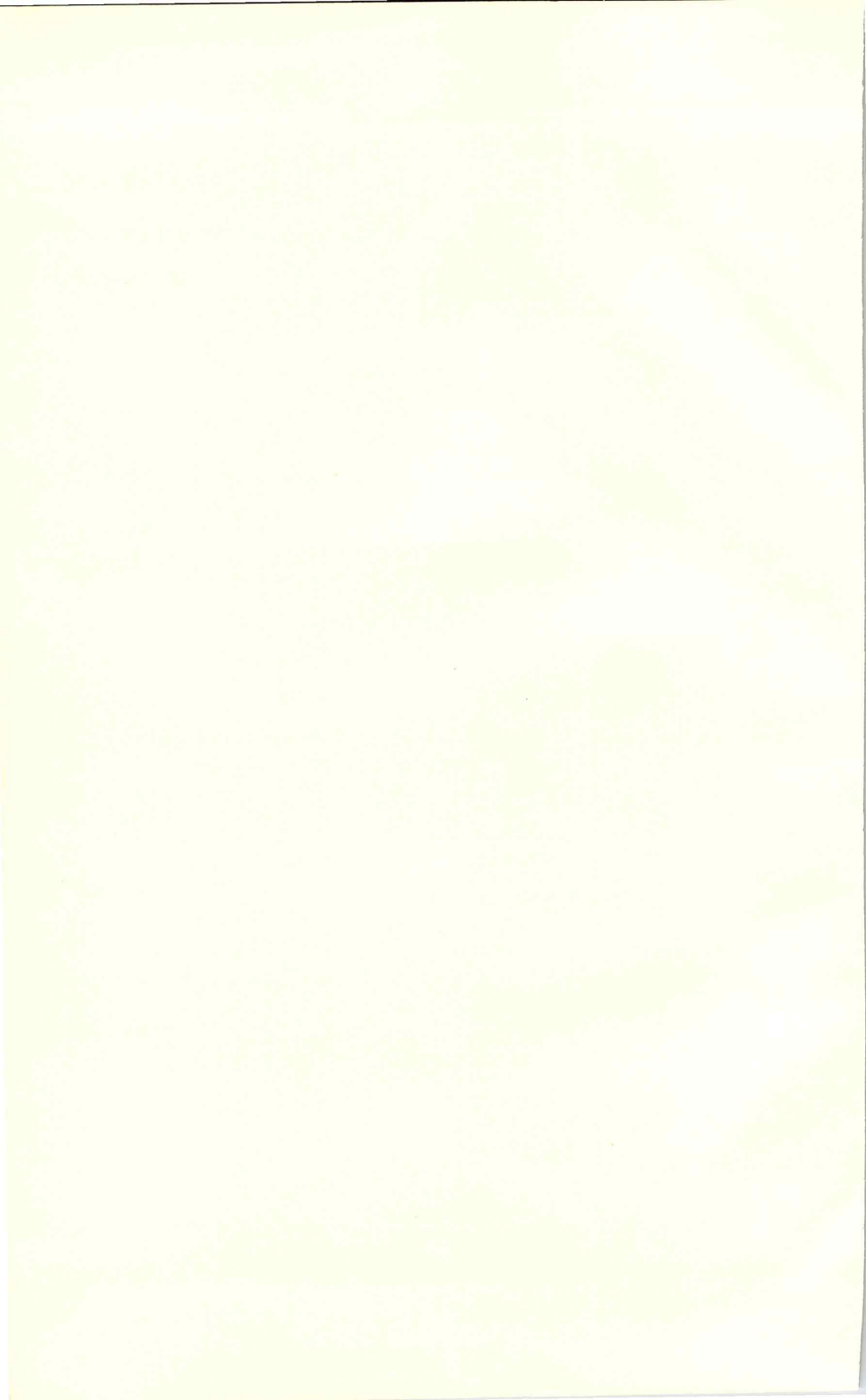
E.T COCHRANE,
14 POPLAR STREET,
GLENITI,
TIMARU 8601
NEW ZEALAND



The History of
**THE NEW ZEALAND CRIPPLED
CHILDREN SOCIETY'S**
First Twenty-five Years
1935 – 1960

*Compiled under the authority and with the
assistance of the National Executive of the
Society by H. E. CAREY.*

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Foreword

The accompanying pages which record the bringing into being of the New Zealand Crippled Children Society and its work since its inception, will be read with great interest by all associated with its record.

The History is entirely the work of Mr. H. E. Carey who, for twenty-six years was Hon. Secretary of the New Plymouth Branch of the Society. It has entailed a great amount of investigation over a period of nearly three years and, despite considerable personal expense, the manuscript has been given to the Society without fee or remuneration of any kind.

We are indeed indebted to Mr. Carey for the great amount of work and time which he has given in its preparation.

One cannot read the History without a deep feeling of thanks to those enthusiastic workers whose names are recorded in those early chapters which tell us of the origin of this splendid organisation.

The past three decades have seen great advances in New Zealand in social service on the part of the State, Local Authorities, Churches and voluntary organisations—some of the latter have been established within the period. Among the last-named the New Zealand Crippled Children Society can claim a Dominion-wide contribution to the social services now available in New Zealand.

The growth of the Society has been indeed remarkable, and it has fully earned the sympathy and support of the public which it now enjoys. Nevertheless, the Society was not established and nurtured without a considerable effort—all of it voluntary. It is not surprising, therefore, that it is the wish of those in whose hands the guidance of the Society now rests that a History of its establishment and growth should be prepared and that this work be carried out while those who shared in the great undertaking were still available to supply the basic information. The records that have been supplied to Mr. Carey are themselves testimony to the continuous and successful effort that has marked the progress of the Society.

In this History, tribute is paid to many individuals. Undoubtedly, it could be claimed for many more. I must emphasise the gratitude of the Society for the help received—ranging, as it does, from the princely gifts of the Viscount Nuffield to the efforts made by little children to help their physically handicapped school-mates.

Special thanks are due to the Government of the day, and especially to Ministers of Health, Education and Maori Affairs, and their officers of these Departments, for their continuous and sympathetic co-operation with the Society. Because they are servants of the State it is difficult to mention the names of those whose advice and

assistance have been of great service to the Society. The same may be said of Local Authorities, of employers, of Trade Unions and, indeed, of any organisation from whom assistance has been received.

I must also pay tribute to members of the Medical, Nursing and Teaching Professions, without whose aid the progress of the Society would have been well-nigh impossible—the Society greatly appreciates the invaluable service each has rendered.

May I again express our deep appreciation of this splendid contribution by Mr. Carey—it will serve as a constant reminder of the outstanding service he has rendered to the Society over so long a period.

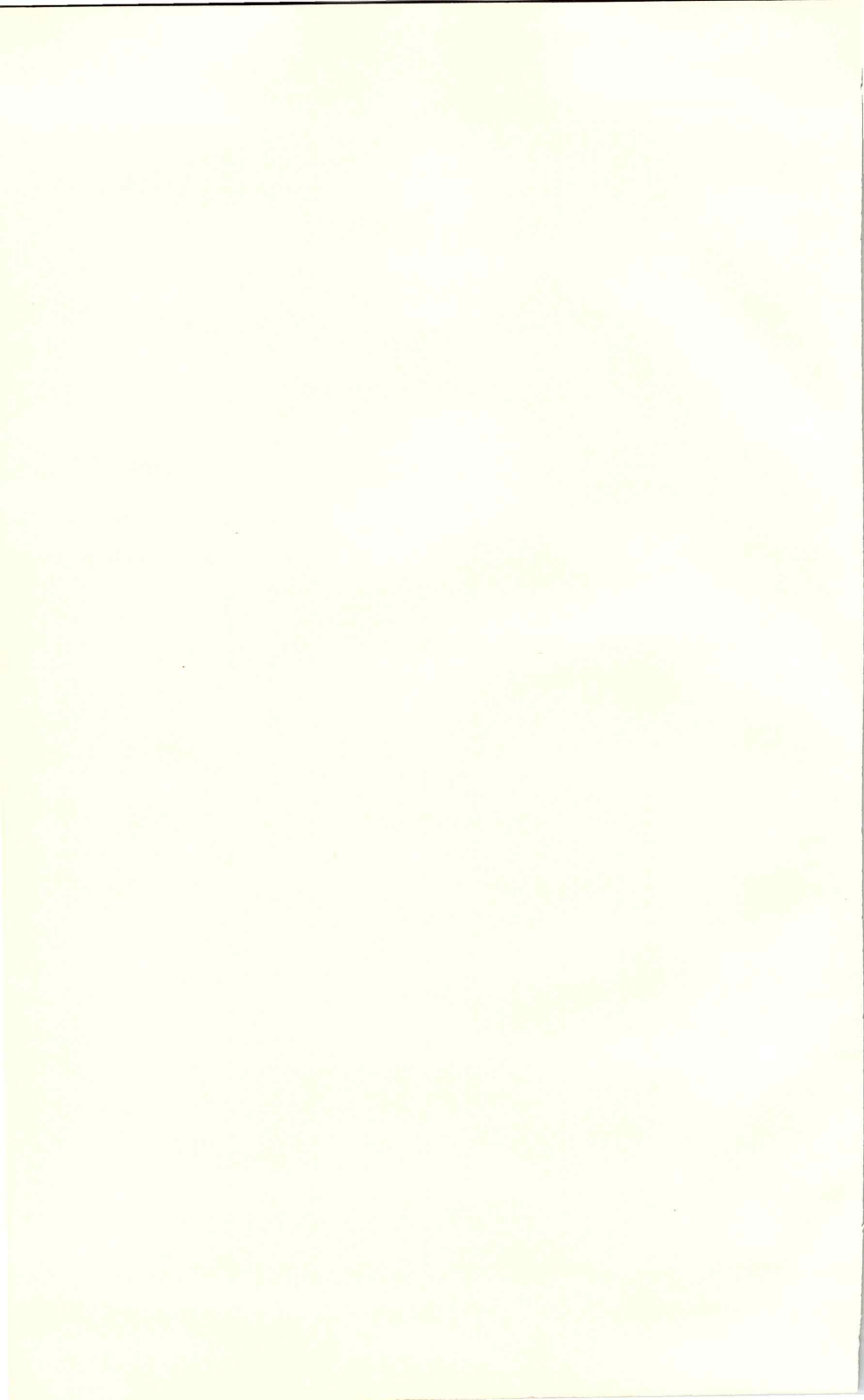
CHARLES NORWOOD,

PRESIDENT

NEW ZEALAND CRIPPLED CHILDREN SOCIETY (INC.).

*"More helpful than all wisdom is
one draught of simple human pity."*

—George Eliot.



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SIR CHARLES NORWOOD

Vice-President on foundation of Society in 1935, President since 1939,
and donor of the Norwood Trust Fund.



Chapter I

"FORGOTTEN CHILDREN"

FROM ITS DAWN civilisation has found in crippledom a problem that has been persistent and important. In the earliest centuries its solution was simple. Those unfit to hunt or fight were not allowed to live. But as man's progress upward continued that Spartan conception of the rights of the individual faded, although it was many centuries before the duty of the community to assist the handicapped, and especially the crippled child, received any attention. The birth of a deformed child was regarded as "the unexpected pre-ordained by the gods" to quote an ancient Greek proverb, but whether or in what conditions the child lived concerned only the family to which the gods had been unkind.

That phase in the history of crippledom was succeeded by one that was even more hideous and was one for which Great Britain and the United States of America were largely responsible. The callous use of child labour in mines, factories and home production of manufactures as both those English-speaking countries became highly industrialized made a blot on the history of industrialism that will long remain.

The brutal use of child labour and the lack of safety precautions in the use of machinery led to such an increase in deformed and physically handicapped persons as to arouse humanitarian opinion. Generations later it has been demonstrated that to reduce crippledom is not only a duty of the community but is "sound business."

Nearly 200 years ago Dr. Andre in Paris and some years later Dr. Lettson in London pleaded for wider means of treatment of certain physical disabilities, Lettson, indeed, founding a hospital at Margate, near London, for the accommodation of patients whose treatment needed a longer stay than could be given in an ordinary hospital.

Laymen as well as doctors were also becoming appalled at the black shadow over Britain's amazing progress in industrialism. Their efforts for reform had to fight against war conditions, against stupidity, against complacency among those in authority,

even against the inertia of those it was hoped to benefit. Their determination brought results. In Great Britain the first Factory Act came into force in 1802. In 1817 an orthopaedic hospital was founded in Birmingham and in 1838 the Royal Orthopaedic Hospital in London. By 1867 St. Bartholomew's Hospital in London had established a special orthopaedic branch, and in the provinces special hospitals and homes for the physically handicapped were being established. In the last decade of the 19th century these were supplemented by training centres, or as they are termed today, "sheltered workshops."

During the century pioneers like W. J. Little, W. Adams, H. O. Thomas and others were improving the medical and surgical treatment of cripples, especially of crippled children, and with Robert Jones' (afterwards Sir Robert) association with Thomas in 1875 there commenced the more modern chapter of that treatment. Apart from that professional advancement the fact that is most prominent in the previous century's history of crippleddom and its treatment is that the share of the lay community in the care of the physically handicapped increased and has continued to increase.

Its outcome was seen in the demand for health and industrial legislation for prevention of crippling and in the establishment of special institutions in Great Britain and America during that period. Admittedly the institutions were too few and the methods adopted needed amendment. There was, however, some growth of the conviction that the care of the physically handicapped is work in which all sections of the community can share.

This century has seen that growth quickened enormously. In Great Britain the Shropshire Hospital established by Miss Agnes Hunt, herself a cripple, and for which Robert Jones was chief medical adviser for many years, was opened in 1900. Across the Atlantic "Daddy" Edgar Allen, built a hospital for crippled children at Elyria, U.S.A., in 1907, in memory of his son. In 1915 he started a movement for better treatment and education of crippled children throughout the United States with the aid of Rotary Clubs. He widened this concept to inaugurate in 1921 an International Society for the Welfare of Cripples, a society that flourished and is of increasing importance today and of which the N.Z. Crippled Children Society is a member.

In New Zealand there were no industrial conditions such as those in Britain and America to foster crippling conditions. The use of child labour in the process of turning the forest into farms was not unknown and in some cases was over-exacting. But speaking by and large exploitation of child labour did not exist. Most people were aware of crippled or handicapped children in certain families, but speaking generally they did not realise how widespread were

these distressing conditions. There was a Health Department and the local hospital to deal with such matters and why, it was asked, should the ordinary citizen have to concern himself with the problem. The community was soon to receive answers to that question.

In New Zealand, in the year 1916 and again in 1924-5 the Dominion suffered widespread epidemics of poliomyelitis, then commonly known as "infantile paralysis." Their consequences were far reaching and the permanent disablement they left behind was appalling. Sixteen years after the first epidemic a leading newspaper claimed that "until recently" the problem of crippleddom did not exist and that the community was justified in assuming that the care of the crippled children was the responsibility of their parents or guardians. Many parents accepted the responsibility gallantly, indeed it is not an exaggeration to say that there were many family dramas of which outsiders knew nothing. The tragedy was that family self sacrifice could so often ensure only mere necessities for the crippled children concerned and could do nothing for their rehabilitation or training to enable them to take a place in the common citizenship. There were, of course, charitable efforts made by church and other organisations. They were, however, directed chiefly towards relieving the immediate needs of the handicapped without much regard to their future. Even medical or surgical treatment was often beyond the resources of parents. There was a tendency generally to regard such treatment as necessary only when children had reached the school age or after. If no cure or relief was then possible the unfortunate child's prospects were only the care of the home as long as it could be given and entry into one of the rather grim State institutions when home care ceased.

One of the results of the First World War was an enforced awakening of the community to the problem of crippleddom, especially of course among returned servicemen.

Another was the advance made by the medical profession in the treatment and training of cripples. Seeing that 60 per cent of all the surgical casualties in that war were injuries to the limbs or spine, certain members of the army medical service had been given great opportunities for research while overseas. They had been led in Great Britain by Sir Robert Jones, who had revolutionised the treatment of cripples, and the Dominion was enriched by their return with new enthusiasm and knowledge for not only the medical or surgical treatment of the cripple but his rehabilitation as a worthwhile member of the community. Men like Selwyn Morris in Auckland, Walter S. Robertson in Wellington, Wilfred Stanley Wallis in Rotorua, Leslie Will in Christchurch, Renfrew White in Dunedin and others were all keenly

interested in work for the cripple, child or adult, although in the earliest of the post-war years efforts towards rehabilitation or training were chiefly confined to ex-servicemen. Of those mentioned Morris and Wallis are dead, Robertson has retired from practice, White is no longer in the Dominion and full reference to Mr. Will's efforts is made in the history of the Canterbury Branch of this society.

The medical unit specially trained overseas, reports Mr. Robertson, was absorbed in 1919 into the staff of the Trentham hospital for the treatment of war disabilities. When work for ex-servicemen eased crippled children were admitted and treated. In 1922 the Trentham hospital was closed and the responsibility for carrying on some of its work, including treatment of crippled children, was passed back to the Wellington Hospital Board. This entailed the establishment of an Orthopaedic Department at the Wellington Hospital which was under Mr. Robertson's charge until 1928 when he resumed private practice. Further reference to Mr. Robertson's association with the Crippled Children Society is made in Chapter XII.

A further name must be added to the list of medical enthusiasts, if, indeed, it should not be first. It is that of Mr. (now Sir) Alexander Gillies, who in 1929 was appointed orthopaedic surgeon to the Wellington Hospital. The fuller details available of his efforts than of those of other surgeons show not only the widening vision and research among members of the medical profession but its insistence also upon the co-operation of the lay public.

For it is true to say that up to the middle "twenties" of the present century there was no organised effort made to help crippled children throughout the Dominion although there were spasmodic efforts to help in individual cases, and, as reported by Mr. Robertson, some responsibility accepted by hospital authorities.

By virtue of his training at the Shropshire Orthopaedic Hospital (now known as the Robert Jones and Agnes Hunt Hospital) under Sir Robert Jones and later, his experience in America and Canada, Mr. Gillies found that the problems of the cripple in New Zealand were similar to those encountered by pioneers elsewhere and therefore began a campaign to interest the public in these problems.

He urged the need for specialised treatment of cripples and later training them for future citizenship. Mr. Gillies quoted the practice of the Shropshire Orthopaedic Hospital and others, where they had inaugurated the revolutionary method of sending members of its staff out to the homes of cripples to see if further hospitalisation was necessary—as well as to ensure that the treatment ordered was being observed and that the delicate problems of adjusting splints and their correct wear were fully understood.

He told how crippled children and their parents were given fresh hope for the future that dispelled the view that a cripple in the beginning was a cripple to the end of life, dependent on the help of others, as one who survives merely to exist. All this is commonplace today, but 30 years ago such methods were regarded as impetuous, emotional and unlikely to last.

While Mr. Gillies and other orthopaedic surgeons pleaded for the treatment of the crippled child—the need for organised effort was the main theme of this early propaganda—by him and by others—as the only possible channel by which these great objectives for the cripple could be accomplished. It was the only way to reach the public and make it “cripple conscious.”

In England as elsewhere reluctance to new methods had been encountered as it was in New Zealand when it came to providing the necessary facilities. Nevertheless wherever opportunity offered Mr. Gillies pleaded the cause of the crippled child. He gave addresses, appealed to authorities, paid a visit to Australia at his own expense to see the results being obtained there, and continued to champion the crippled child.

On May 13th, 1930, Mr. Gillies addressed the Wellington Rotary Club, at its request, on “The Cripple and Vocational Training for the Physically Defective” in which he referred to the work done for the crippled in other countries and the need for an organisation in New Zealand for similar work. It proved a momentous address, for as Sir John Ilott stated at its “coming of age” meeting in December, 1956, the first step in the formation of the New Zealand Crippled Children Society was the address by Mr. Gillies.

He continued his propaganda in 1930 and on October 13 the same year addressed the St. John Ambulance Association at Wellington on assistance to crippled people and the need for their vocational training. Both addresses were reported in the Wellington newspapers but without editorial comment.

In January, 1932, however, the propaganda received the help of an important newspaper. It published details of crippleddom in the Dominion and urged the establishment of a central station to which particulars could be sent, a training institution established for children leaving school and those whose adversity comes on them in later life, and provision for such as are quite incapable of work. The article concluded:—“These are not mere charitable aids they are an economic necessity.”

Unfortunately New Zealand was then in the depth of its worst economic depression and State action was considered impossible. Nevertheless the campaign for the crippled child continued and as will be seen in the next chapter on a broader basis than that provided by the medical profession.

Chapter II

ROTARY TAKES ACTION

IN THE YEARS when problems that followed the first world war were pressing harshly on the Dominion's economy, i.e. in the year 1921-22, a social organisation which had met with considerable success in other English-speaking countries was established in New Zealand. Its name was "Rotary" and its motto "Service before Self." Founders of Rotary in the Dominion made no secret of their determination to harness the new organisation to work for the community, and among the fruits of that determination was the establishment of the New Zealand Crippled Children Society which was primarily an entirely Rotary effort. It is no exaggeration to claim that if it had accomplished nothing else, the establishment of the New Zealand Crippled Children Society would have justified Rotary's existence.

The story of its founding which follows has been supplied chiefly by Rotarians who shared in that high and successful endeavour. To trace the main features of such an effort more than twenty-five years after it was made necessitated considerable research. This was undertaken by Sir John Ilott and other Rotarians associated with him in founding the society. Warmest thanks are due to them for their invaluable contribution to the authenticity of the history of the society they helped to form.

In 1913 the Rotary Club of Syracuse, New York, launched the first concerted effort to help the crippled child—since then the work for crippled children has been one of Rotary's outstanding activities in Rotary's many hundreds of clubs in U.S.A. and other countries. Indeed the establishment of Crippled Children Societies in most countries in the world can usually be attributed to the work of Rotary clubs.

These developments in the United States resulted in the formation of the National Society for the Welfare of Cripples and subsequently in the bringing into being of the International Society for the Welfare of Cripples. Its first President, the late "Daddy" Allen, was known throughout the Rotary world and will be long remembered for his outstanding work for the crippled child.

Not only in literature sent to its Clubs, but also in the pages of The Rotarian, Rotary International had recommended that all Clubs should consider help for crippled children as a major Community Service effort, but it was not until 1930 that the Community Service Committee of the Rotary Club of Wellington decided to do something regarding the problem—in consequence (as pointed out in Chapter 1) they asked Dr. (now Sir) Alexander Gillies, then a new member, to address the Club on the problem.

A year was given to studying the problem, and as a result the Wellington Rotary Club decided to forward a Resolution to the next annual conference of District 53 which it was expected would be held in February, 1931, suggesting that committees should be formed in all New Zealand Clubs to take an interest in the crippled child. However, as a result of the depression and of the serious Napier earthquake in February of that year, the annual conference was cancelled.

In consequence, the Resolution, which read as follows:—

“Whereas there is no existing Society in New Zealand interested in the problems of the crippled children it is resolved that Rotarians in their District Conference recommend each Rotary Club in the 53rd District to form a committee for the purpose of taking an interest in the problems of the crippled child.”

was held over and was sent by the Club to the next Annual Conference held in Dunedin on May 11th-13th, 1932, where it was discussed and adopted—the District Governor for the year was the late Harry Guthrie.

The matter was discussed further on behalf of the Wellington Rotary Club at the District Assembly held in Wellington on August 4th, 1932, by the incoming Governor for the year, District Governor Harry Valder.

The Wellington President, Dr. McDonald Wilson, urged that Rotary Clubs should collect information in their own centres, and having all the information should request the Mayor to call a citizens' meeting for the formation of a local committee. The Wellington Club would be prepared to supply information wherever required.

Rotarian Dr. Alex. Gillies pointed out that New Zealand's main work should be in the educational field, so that children would have a chance to earn their living later. He said that 18 months ago the Education Department had made a survey which had disclosed that there were 900 crippled children, mostly in Standards 1 to 6, but this number did not include schools not under the Education Department, nor children up to 5 years of age, or over 14 who had left school.

In the meantime, further information on the activities for the crippled child in the United States and other countries was obtained from Rotary International. No committees were set up by Clubs in the interim and the matter came up again at the following

Conference held in Palmerston North on February 27th-March 1st, 1933, under the Governorship of the late Harry Valder, when action was taken and the following Resolution was passed—

"Whereas there is an urgent need of united Dominion-wide effort to assist in the advancement of the interests of cripples, especially crippled children, it is resolved by the Rotarians of the 53rd District assembled in their District Conference:

- (a) That the resolution of the last Conference relating to cripples be re-affirmed, viz., 'That it be a recommendation to each Rotary Club in the 53rd District to form a Committee for the purpose of enlisting the interest and support of the entire community in the problem of the cripple.'
- (b) That the Wellington Rotary Club be asked to set up a committee with Rotarian Alex Gillies as Convenor to prepare a scheme for a Dominion-wide campaign to assist crippled children, and then, when such plan has been prepared, the proposals be in the first instance submitted to the next District Assembly, and, if approved by the District Assembly, be forwarded by the District Governor to each Club for action."

The Committee chosen comprised Dr. (now Sir Alexander) Gillies, Convenor, the late T. C. List and the late Lem. T. Watkins, and as T. C. List, who was elected as Governor Nominee for the in-coming year, was leaving for U.S.A. forthwith, he was asked to look into and report on activities in U.S.A. for helping the crippled child. He attended the Annual Convention of Rotary International at Boston and it was fortunate that a demonstration showing what could be done by Clubs to assist crippled children was staged there as part of the proceedings.

On his return to New Zealand, at his District Assembly in Wellington on August 22nd-23rd, 1933, District Governor List arranged for a similar demonstration. All present agreed that the time had arrived to introduce the movement to New Zealand, and re-affirmed the Conference Resolution that the formation of a Crippled Children's Society with Branches throughout the Dominion should be a major activity of Rotary.

Rotarian L. T. Watkins, of the Wellington Club, addressed the Assembly. Before introducing him, Governor T. C. List said he had been greatly impressed with the work for crippled children being carried out by Rotary in U.S.A. and urged that each Club in New Zealand should take an interest in this work. It was then resolved that a committee, consisting of Mr. L. T. Watkins, Dr. Alexander Gillies, and Governor T. C. List, should investigate the situation further in order to help Clubs in meeting the problem.

They proved a most energetic triumvirate during the next few months. Up and down the Dominion Rotary Governor "T.C." List talked of the project—not only to Rotarians but to anyone interested

in social welfare. He urged the necessity for prompt action and in various ways did all he could to awaken public interest in the welfare of the crippled child.

Governor "T.C." had a first-rank supporter in Rotarian L. T. Watkins. In the Wellington area he also "carried the fiery cross" demanding immediate action. Rotarian Gillies, as has been shown in the previous chapter, was equally enthusiastic. The leaven of service was therefore set working, but economic conditions in New Zealand were at their gravest. The Dominion shared in a world-wide depression, the Napier earthquake was an enormous calamity and many districts had local financial commitments they found hard to meet.

Nevertheless at the 12th District Conference held at New Plymouth February 27th-March 1st, 1934, the Special Committee's Report, prepared as a result of the decision at the Assembly held in Wellington in August, 1933, was presented in full in the Proceedings. It states that Governor List reported on the large part taken by Rotary in the care of cripples in U.S.A. In New York City, the Association for Crippled Children was entirely composed of members of the Rotary Club, and the International Society, under the inspiring leadership of "Daddy" Allen, was largely a production of Rotary.

At the Boston Conference he had seen a demonstration given by Dr. Davidson, head of the Boston Children's Sunlight Hospital, on what could be done for the welfare of the crippled by wise training. Reference was made to the N.S.W. Crippled Children Society set up by the Rotary Club of Sydney in 1930.

In presenting the Report, Rotarian L. T. Watkins urged that the Clubs should do everything possible to alleviate the load of the handicapped—in this he was supported by Rotarian Alex. Gillies and Governor "T.C." After discussion the following Resolutions were passed:

- (1) "That the Rotary Clubs of the 53rd District should make the mental or psychological condition of the crippled children of the Dominion a major activity."
- (2) "That steps be taken to form a N.Z. Crippled Children's Society on the lines of the report, and that in the meantime every Rotary Club endeavour to form a branch of the Society in its community, and to interest all sections in the work."

At this District Conference, John Ilott was elected as Governor Nominee for the coming year and was asked to discuss the matter further with Rotary Authorities in U.S.A. Unfortunately he was taken seriously ill at the Convention at Detroit and Governor T. C. List deputised for him at the District Assembly at Wellington. Governor T.C. was taken ill on the first day and died almost immediately afterwards. The Assembly decided to take no further steps until the return of District Governor John Ilott, as it was his

responsibility as District Governor on behalf of Rotary to take the necessary steps to form the N.Z. Crippled Children Society and to arrange for the formation of the individual Branches on his subsequent visits to the Branches.

In the meantime, considerable work was done by members of the Wellington Club, and particularly by Rotarian F. Campbell Spratt, in drafting the proposed Constitution for the New Zealand Society for Crippled Children, and for the Branches. A folder was prepared for circulation prior to calling a meeting of the general public to form a Branch at each local point. In presenting the report at the Assembly, Rotarian Frank Campbell, Chairman of the central committee of the Wellington Club, said that all were in agreement with the need, and in consequence the meetings of the committee had dealt with the Constitution and with the preparation of material. Two pamphlets had been attempted but had been discarded after much editing and blue pencilling. Consequent upon Governor John's illness, it had been decided to await his return in order to learn his wishes as to the best way in which to launch the Movement. He felt that the necessary data was now available to enable Clubs to enthuse the public in their Districts. Dr. Alex Gillies, in speaking to the Report, said that the Director of School Hygiene in New Zealand had promised co-operation and co-ordination. Every Branch should be an Information Bureau with regard to cripples here and elsewhere.

Rotarian F. Campbell Spratt, of Wellington, explained that the Constitution was very similar to that of the Plunket Society in which the Branches were the Parent Bodies. The Parent Society would be the link between the various Hospital Boards, the Government, and other organisations, and would be the clearing house for correspondence with other countries. Local Branches would, within the limits of the Constitution, be autonomous and would have utmost liberty of action.

Chapter III

THE SOCIETY IS FORMED

ON HIS RETURN to New Zealand late in 1934 its District Governor, John Ilott, soon made himself acquainted with all the preparatory work done by Rotary towards the establishment of a Crippled Children Society to function throughout the Dominion. Those efforts received the added stimulus of their Governor's knowledge of the latest activities in the United States on behalf of handicapped children. In a few weeks, under Governor Ilott's leadership, committees and individuals streamlined their efforts. This was evident at the Rotary Conference in March, 1935, when the draft constitution and rules of the Society were submitted and received the approval of the conference, the necessary papers were prepared and the New Zealand Crippled Children Society was legally established. And so, thanks to Rotary, a high-minded adventure in the fight against disease was launched and another radiant moment passed in the story of social efforts in New Zealand and became a part of the Dominion's history.

Briefly, the society's constitution provided for the establishment of a Dominion executive in Wellington to control, co-ordinate, guide and assist branches, to take concerted action and to make representations to authorities when necessary. Branches in the various districts would be autonomous, subject to the foregoing duties of the executive. No time was lost; a provisional executive was set up with Sir David Smith as president, the late F. Campbell as chairman and the late Malcolm Fraser as secretary. On March 20th a circular letter to members of the public was issued by the Wellington Rotary Club. It was signed by its president, the late Mr. F. Campbell.

The letter pointed out the need for the formation of a crippled children organisation in New Zealand, paid tribute to the efforts made by the State to treat and assist handicapped children, but pointed out that there was a point beyond which the crippled child needed assistance that "no existing organisation or agency can meet."

The needs to be met were also detailed in the letter. They followed those referred to in the previous chapter and gave details

also of the number of crippled children in the Dominion, as ascertained from State records, although the figures obtained were incomplete.

The methods by which the society proposed to meet these needs, the possibility of many cures if skilled attention were given as soon as possible, and the suggestion that to aid in the work was a duty of good citizenship ended a powerful appeal. It is satisfactory to know today that the appeal received generous support from all sections of the community.

The appeal stated that although Rotary had done so much in launching the Crippled Children Society it was not a branch of the Rotary movement. "The society," it said, would draw "its membership from and make its appeal to people in all walks of life. But the Rotary Clubs of New Zealand are behind the movement and will place their organisation at the disposal of the society until the society is firmly established. The whole expense of forming the society is guaranteed by the Rotary Clubs in the Dominion."

The last sentence quoted followed a decision at the Timaru Conference that all expenses connected with the formation of the N.Z. Crippled Children Society and its Branches were to be borne by Rotary. At that Conference donations amounting to £800 towards the costs of forming the society were made by Rotarians. Rotarian Jack (subsequently Sir John) McKenzie gave £500 for the Christchurch Branch, Charles (subsequently Sir Charles) Norwood £100 for the Central Fund, R. Wilkie £50 for the Timaru Branch, and Mr. V. Jacobs 10 guineas for the Dunedin Branch. Governor John, speaking to the matter, advised the conference of the arrangements for the visit of "Titania's Palace," which was to be exhibited by the four centres and some provincial town, and it was hoped it would provide substantial finance—a hope it may be said that was fulfilled later.

The decision was endorsed by Rotarian Frank Campbell and also by Sir Clutha McKenzie, of Auckland.

With more than twenty-five years of progress behind it the work and attitude of the Rotary movement in its establishment is sometimes overlooked by the public and even by some who are associated with the present-day activities of the New Zealand Crippled Children Society. Like the foundations of a fine building, such public-spirited efforts can be lost sight of over the years. Without firm foundations, however, the finest of buildings will collapse and the apparently most successful organisation will disintegrate. In justice to the founders and for the use of future inquirers it has been thought essential to give in full detail the steps taken by Rotary in establishing the New Zealand Crippled Children Society.

The Society has gone from strength to strength, but an important part of its history and a major factor in its success is the work and

generosity of the volunteers who laid its foundations so "truly and well." They have left a record of which every Rotarian can feel proud. The debt of the Society to Rotary was recognised and a motion was passed at its first Annual General Meeting held on July 10th, 1935, reading as follows:—

"That this Conference conveys to New Zealand Rotary, to its Associate Clubs, to the Provincial Committee, and particularly to Mr. Frank Campbell as Chairman, its sincere appreciation of the invaluable work performed in instituting the Society."

To quote Marcus Aurelius, "The obstacles had thus become the road."

Chapter IV

LORD NUFFIELD'S GIFTS

THERE WAS CONSIDERABLE activity at one of the leading hotels in Wellington one evening early in March, 1935. Some 200 guests were being entertained to dinner there, the principal guest being Viscount Nuffield, one of the most prominent of England's industrial leaders, and with a reputation for philanthropy that was even then worldwide. The host was Mr. (now Sir) Charles Norwood, a zealous Rotarian and not only a business associate of Lord Nuffield but also his personal friend.

Mr. Norwood had left the Rotary conference at which the N.Z. Crippled Children Society had been launched before the conference ended in order to meet Lord Nuffield in Wellington. To meet hotel arrangements the dinner hour was later than usual. This gave opportunity for a quiet talk with his Lordship and Sir Charles Norwood has kindly supplied details of that conversation and of all that it led to:—

"I thought," records Sir Charles, "it an opportune time to ask for Lord Nuffield's assistance and I intended to ask for £1000. After submitting a well considered report, which included a statement to the effect that a survey had been made showing that there were approximately 5000 children in New Zealand not receiving the attention that would bring them to be useful citizens, His Lordship stopped me suddenly and said: "Do you mean to say that in this beautiful country there are 5000 children who are not receiving the attention that would be helpful to them?" I replied that a survey had been made and that was the information at my disposal. He said "Well, Norwood, you will want an endowment for this work. Before I leave this country I shall hand you over £50,000 as a nucleus for the service."

I suggested to His Lordship that he make this statement at dinner, which he flatly refused to do. I told him, however, that I was not going to pretend that I was finding the £50,000 and that when I was proposing the toast to him I would make it easy for him to make reference to the gift. This was the nicest thing that happened at the dinner, which was otherwise a very sociable affair. Lord Nuffield made the statement in quiet, unassuming terms and said just a few words about the unfortunate cripples.

The following day we left for Auckland and on arrival there the Mayor came to see me to obtain some particulars that would be helpful to him in tending a civic reception to Lord Nuffield the next day. The Mayor said, "I have brought with me a photograph of the home of Mr. and Mrs. Wilson who, inspired by what Lord Nuffield has done for the crippled child, have offered their home for crippled children." I then introduced the Mayor to Lord Nuffield and the first thing His Lordship asked was if there were any conditions attached to the gift. The Mayor replied that the only condition was that the garden should be maintained and the house kept in reasonable repair and painted at times.

Lord Nuffield thought this was fine—that others should make such a generous offer—but that they would need an endowment for the purpose. He said he could not give a sum to any one particular part of New Zealand but only on a national basis. However, he said, he would leave £10,000 and he hoped there would be other gifts of a similar nature.

I immediately set about forming a Special "Trust for Children's Homes," national in nature, and the first trustees were: Sir James Grose, General Manager of the National Bank of New Zealand, Sir Donald McGavin, the Rt. Hon. Sir Michael Myers, K.C.M.G., Chief Justice, Mr. J. M. A. (now Sir John) Ilott, and myself. Sir Michael Myers was appointed Chairman of the Trust, which was formed on the 11th April, 1935.

As there were no other gifts or institutions existing similar to the Wilson Home, the whole of the interest on that £10,000 donated by Lord Nuffield has been paid, through the Auckland Crippled Children Society, to the Auckland Hospital Board towards the maintenance of the Wilson Home.

On the next visit of His Lordship to New Zealand, he handed me a further £7500 and in doing so Lord Nuffield said he was so pleased with what had been done by the N.Z. Crippled Children Society and those at its Branches that this cheque should be handed to the Trustees of the Nuffield Trust for crippled children. These three donations form the basis of the Nuffield Trust. The present trustees are: Sir Charles Norwood (Chairman), Sir John Ilott (Deputy Chairman), Mr. E. C. Fussell (Governor of the Reserve Bank), Sir Duncan Stout, Mr. Ernest W. Hunt, Mr. Ian T. Cook (Secretary).

There have been no costs of any kind in connection with the running of the Trust, which has been very efficient, but I must admit first thanks to Mr. Ian Cook for the amount of professional work he has done concerning the investments which has taken up a lot of time. Mr. Cook succeeded Mr. Ernest Hunt, of Messrs. Ernest Hunt, Turner and Co., the first secretaries of the Trust. Mr. Hunt resigned the secretaryship on his appointment as a trustee.

The Nuffield gifts and trust constitute the most outstanding private benevolence any social organisation in New Zealand has

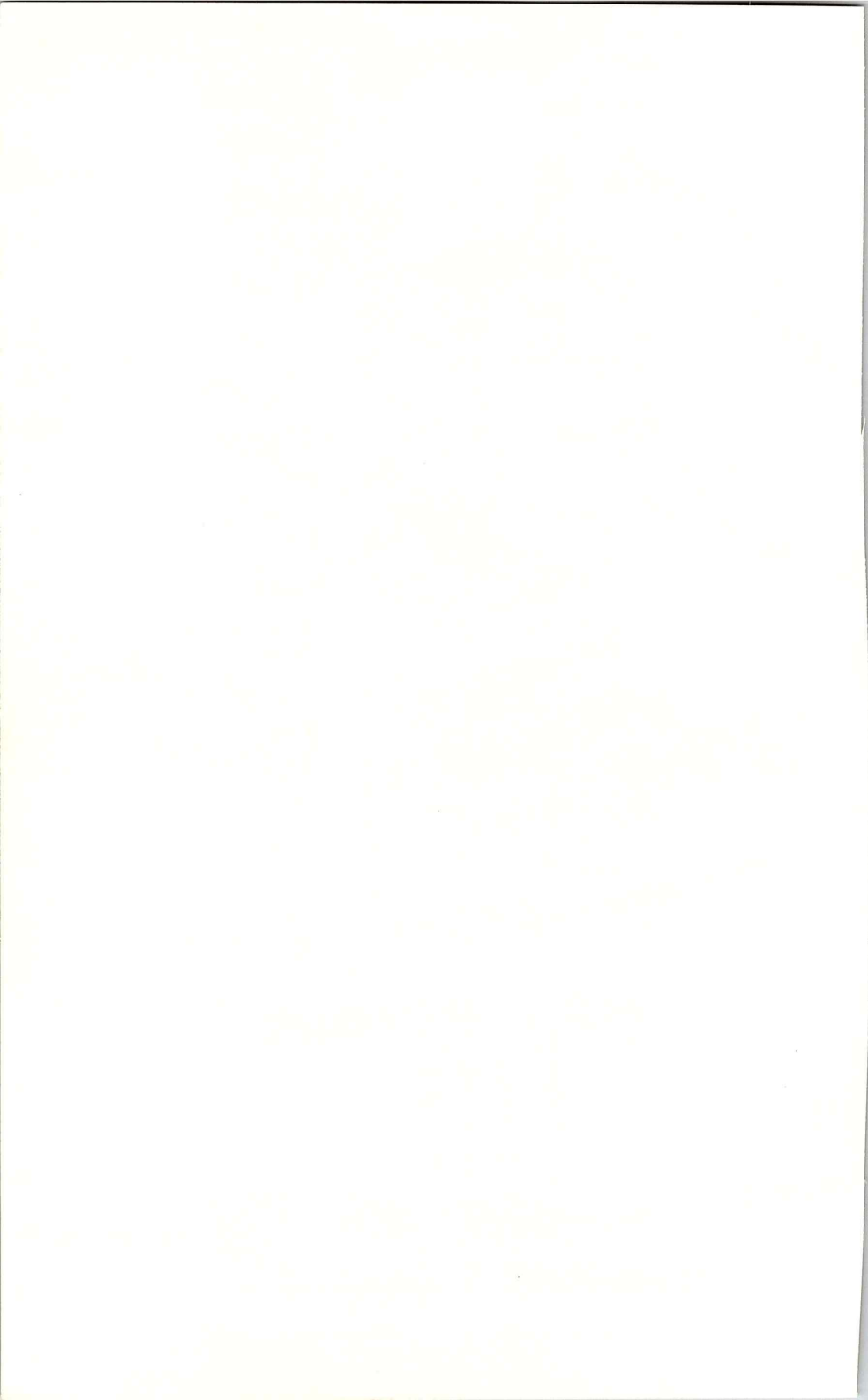
received. His last £7500 was in part distributed by the Trust to the Mayors in all areas where there was no specialised hospital treatment available, especially for occupational therapy. From his Lordship's further generosity some of the smaller branches of the Society received grants that were of material aid in finding employment for crippled adolescents, thereby fulfilling the obligation to give occupational therapy for which Lord Nuffield had given this further donation. His generosity was a governing factor in the rapid and continuous development of the New Zealand Crippled Children Society. Moreover, as has been seen, it was Lord Nuffield's magnificent gift that inspired two of Auckland's leading citizens, Mr. and Mrs. W. R. Wilson, to offer their lovely home at Takapuna as a permanent home for crippled children.

In an address at Auckland to medical practitioners, Professor H. A. Rusk, M.D., of New York, said, "There were three things that correlated all the way through" in the treatment of cripples. "The patients did well if they had a job to go to, if they had a home to go to, or if they had someone who loved them." Lord Nuffield's munificent gifts have brought those three essentials within the grasp of many crippled children in New Zealand.



THE VISCOUNT NUFFIELD

His generosity enabled the establishment of the Nuffield Trust Fund.



Chapter V

BRANCHES FORMED

THE SOCIETY HAVING been formed and given a flying start through the generosity of Lord Nuffield, the next step was the establishment of Branches. Here again yeoman service was rendered by Mr. (now Sir John) Ilott when as District Governor he visited the various Rotary Clubs in the Dominion. They promised full assistance and it will be seen from the history of each Branch that the promises were fulfilled.

At the Rotary convention in 1934 it had been made clear that upon its branches would rest the responsibility for carrying out the detailed work of the society. They would, of course, be affiliated to the parent society, and they would have representation on the national executive. Their immediate duties were to assist and supplement any State efforts for the aid of crippled children by (a) compiling with tact a list of crippled children in each Branch's district; (b) providing transport for patients needing treatment or vocational training; (c) give assistance in vocational training and in finding suitable employment for crippled children when they are able to undertake it.

At a meeting of the central committee of the parent society held on March 12th, 1935, a committee was appointed to make arrangements for a public meeting to be held in Wellington under the chairmanship of the Mayor with a view to the establishment of a Branch in that city and district.

Public interest in the Society was growing and on March 26th, 1935, the Evening Post reported that the Executive of the Central Committee consisted of Sir Alexander Roberts, Messrs. John Ilott, C. J. B. Norwood, S. L. P. Free (Masterton), Campbell Spratt, H. E. Anderson, and Drs. Alexander Gillies, S. Foster (Christchurch) and F. T. Bowerbank, and the Mayors of Auckland, Wellington, Christchurch and Dunedin, who were to act until the first Annual Meeting of the newly-formed Crippled Children Society, when a General Council would be elected. The annual membership subscription was fixed at 5/-.

On March 29th the provisional executive was advised that the New Zealand Crippled Children Society had been duly incorporated.

The executive decided immediately to write to the Mayors of the four Metropolitan cities and to Rotary clubs urging the formation of Branches. Rules suggested by the central committee were sent for the guidance of the Branches when formed. The Mayors were asked to sponsor public meetings and the letters to them and to the Rotary clubs indicated that as soon as sufficient Branches had been formed a conference would be held in Wellington.

The response was magnificent. On May 15th, i.e., six weeks after its appeals for the establishment of Branches had gone out, the provisional executive was advised that Branches had been formed or were in process of establishment at Auckland, Blenheim, Nelson, Dannevirke, Napier and Hastings, Gisborne, New Plymouth, Christchurch, Dunedin, Invercargill, Oamaru, Palmerston North, Timaru and Hawera. A preliminary meeting to further the establishment of a Wellington Branch was to be held on May 29th and a public meeting on June 14th.

A most notable feature of those early years when once the society was formed is the tremendous vitality injected into all its work, local and general. Those responsible had their problems of selection and organisation but even for them much of their task had been done by the earlier enthusiasts. All later workers are in debt to those pioneers.

Furthermore, Lord Nuffield's generosity had provided the Dominion executive with funds. Branches therefore could meet with equanimity any liability for its upkeep.

The detailed history of each Branch is given elsewhere, but the enthusiasm shown and the happy relationship created with the executive of the parent society deserve the mention accorded in this chapter. The satisfactory relations have continued ever since and are a tribute to the goodwill and foresight displayed by the founders of the society as well as by those who inaugurated the Branches, large or small.

Chapter VI

SOCIETY IN ACTION

ALTHOUGH THE Dominion Executive was most desirous to maintain pleasant relations with the Branches it found it necessary at an early date to maintain its authority. At a meeting of the provisional executive held on May 13th, 1935, alterations and amendments made by a branch in the suggested rules were approved. It was decided, however, to notify the branch that any alterations in its rules must have the approval of the Dominion executive. To prevent the ruling from causing discontent it was pointed out to the branch that whilst a Wellington committee had drafted the rules their continuance or amendment would in future be approved or rejected by a central executive representative of the whole of New Zealand.

The most important business at that May meeting was the decision to hold a conference with all Branches in July. The suggested agenda to be sent to branches was a wide one and they were asked to amend or add to it if considered desirable.

Two further meetings of the provisional executive were held on June 20th and July 4th respectively. At the first of these meetings Mr. Ernest W. Hunt was asked to become honorary treasurer, the position he was to hold for more than 20 years. At the second meeting other officers of the society and members of the executive were nominated. They included Mr. W. H. Nankervis as honorary auditor, a position he and his firm have occupied ever since.

On July 10th, 1935, the first general meeting of the New Zealand Crippled Children Society (Inc.) was held in Wellington. It was a heart-warming occasion for the stalwarts who had borne the heat and burden of the years that preceded the establishment of the society. It met of course in the radiant atmosphere created by the generosity of Lord Nuffield and Mr. and Mrs. W. R. Wilson. Delegates were present from 17 Branches (Auckland, Blenheim, Christchurch, Dannevirke, Dunedin, Gisborne, Hawera, Invercargill, Masterton, Napier, Hastings, New Plymouth, Nelson, Oamaru, Palmerston North, Timaru, Wanganui and Wellington). Viscountess Galway, wife of the Governor-General, was asked to become patron

of the society and Mr. Justice (now Sir David) Smith was elected as president. The late Mr. Frank Campbell, chairman of the provisional executive, was elected chairman of the society's Dominion executive council, a position he held until his death in the year 1944.

The conclusions reached by the general meeting in the whole followed closely the suggestions made to Branches by the provisional executive. It was agreed that the aim and policy of the society was to ascertain the needs of crippled children and to devise ways and means of ameliorating their position by treatment of their disability (medical, curative or otherwise) by educational and vocational training, by finding suitable employment and generally by showing friendly care and personal interest, in the condition and circumstances of all crippled children and their future.

The definition of "a crippled child" as drafted by a special sub-committee of the provisional executive was adopted. It was as follows:—

"A crippled child" is a person under 21 years of age, who, being not mentally deficient or not educable, has a defect which causes or tends to deformity or interference with normal functions of the bones, muscles, or joints, the defective condition may be congenital or acquired, but does not include defects of the vital organs.

As will be seen in a later chapter it was found desirable as the result of experience to amend this definition. But for many years it served its purpose admirably, another tribute to the care taken by the provisional executive and its medical sub-committee.

It was also agreed that the boundaries of the districts of Branches should be the Hospital Board district in which a Branch operates.

There was naturally much discussion on the manner in which means would be provided for and the methods by which the work of the society would be carried out. Branches knew of course that they were responsible for providing their own finance. They agreed with the suggestions made by the provisional executive that there should be full co-operation with the State health and education authorities, with hospital and education boards, and with kindred agencies engaged in social and welfare work.

On suggestions that the society should establish its own institutions without delay the meeting agreed that caution was essential. It agreed that for the first year the society and its Branches should "devote their energies to making a thorough survey of the crippled children in their districts and in arranging for the machinery for new cases being reported as they arise; that no obligations in regard to institutions or permanent stipendiary staff (medical, nursing, etc.) be undertaken unless the results of the survey and investigation disclose the necessity for such institutions or stipendiary staff."

The ruling regarding institutions had its first test at the meeting when the Auckland Branch sought authority to accept the Home

for crippled children given by Mr. and Mrs. W. R. Wilson. After much discussion the meeting resolved "that if as the result of an investigation the Auckland Branch considers that it is necessary to accept the gift of their home by Mr. and Mrs. Wilson the New Zealand Crippled Children Society agrees to the Auckland Branch establishing a crippled children's home for the society." In a subsequent resolution the meeting agreed "that the income from the £10,000 endowment fund donated by Lord Nuffield be allocated to the W. R. Wilson Home until such time as other National crippled children's Homes are established in New Zealand." It can be stated here that the income from the endowment fund has been allocated to the Wilson Home ever since as the Society has no other National home for crippled children.

The conference defined the spheres of the work to be undertaken by the National Council and the Branches respectively. Briefly, the council's duty is to co-ordinate, guide and assist Branches, acting and speaking for the society in all general matters when necessary. The Branches are responsible for enrolling members, raising funds and doing the actual work for the crippled children resident in their respective districts. It was also agreed that if there were any difference of policy or opinion between the Council and a Branch the ruling of the Council must be accepted.

As regards finance it was resolved that 10 per cent. of annual members' subscriptions be paid to the New Zealand Society for the first year with a limit of £50 from any one Branch. The meeting also suggested that the funds collected by Mayors to supplement the Nuffield Trust Fund of £50,000 be paid into the Trust and that the Trust pay half of the amount received to the Branch in the particular district in which the individual sums were collected. A further recommendation to the Nuffield Trust was "that if found essential for the relief of crippled children to encroach on the capital of the Nuffield gift this should be done, that no relief should be refused solely in order to preserve the Fund."

It was also suggested that the national executive should confer at once with the New Zealand branch of the British Medical Association, usually known to the society as the B.M.A., the Hospital Boards' Association and the State Departments of Health and of Education "to settle the basis of co-operation with the Society and its branches."

The election of officers included a large number of vice-presidents. They were the heads of the Churches and of the B.M.A., the N.Z. Red Cross Society, the Plunket Society, the Women's Division of the Farmers' Union, and of the Women's Institutes. Also elected were Sir R. Anderson (Invercargill), Sir G. Richardson (Auckland), Sir A. Roberts (Wellington), Dr. H. D. Robertson (Wanganui), Dr. Stanley Wallis (Rotorua), Dr. D. S. Wylie (Palmerston North), Colonel Esson, Mr. F. Campbell and Mr. (now Sir John)

J. M. A. Ilott (Wellington), Mr. W. T. Churchward (Blenheim), Mr. T. H. Lowry (Napier), Mr. T. Neale (Nelson), Mr. (now Sir Charles) C. J. B. Norwood (Wellington), Mr. F. Mitchell (Dunedin), Mr. (later Sir John) J. R. McKenzie (Christchurch), Mr. F. C. Spratt, and Mr. L. T. Watkins (Wellington), Mr. G. L. Taylor and Mr. W. R. Wilson (Auckland), Mrs. Knox Gilmer (Wellington), Mrs. W. R. Wilson (Auckland), and Mrs. T. C. List (New Plymouth).

The appointments of Mr. Malcolm Fraser as honorary secretary, of Mr. E. W. Hunt as honorary treasurer, of Mr. W. H. Nankervis as honorary auditor, and of Messrs. F. C. Spratt and Herbert Taylor as honorary solicitors were confirmed.

The following were elected to the national executive council of the society: Mr. F. Campbell, Chairman, Mr. H. E. Anderson, Dr. (subsequently Sir Fred) Bowerbank, Dr. (now Sir Alexander) Gillies, Mr. (now Sir John) J. M. A. Ilott and Sir A. F. Roberts, all of Wellington, Mr. W. G. Black (Palmerston North), Mr. B. R. Dobbs (Wanganui) and Mr. S. L. P. Free (Masterton).

Votes of thanks to Lord Nuffield and to Mr. and Mrs. W. R. Wilson for their munificent gifts were a happy feature of the proceedings. They were followed by a resolution "that the Executive be instructed to consider any amendments to the constitution submitted by Branches and after obtaining views of other Branches take the necessary steps to give effect to the same."

Thanks to the Rotary Clubs, the provisional executive, especially to its chairman and to the honorary solicitors brought to a close the first general meeting of the society. It was worthy of a full record, for if it was not quite the "charter" of the society it laid down and confirmed principles and rulings which made for successful operations through many years.

Chapter VII

"TEETHING TROUBLES"

THE WORK ENGENDERED at the general meeting and conference cast a heavy burden on the society's executive council. It is not surprising that within a month of that meeting it was decided to appoint a part-time assistant to the honorary secretary, the late Mr. M. Fraser.

There were many "teething troubles" for the executive to overcome during its first year of office. Branches, although so largely autonomous, needed guidance and occasionally a reminder that the society's work—and its rules—were national and not local only. Nor was local enthusiasm confined to Branches of the society. For instance one hospital board offered a house with land to the society. The Branch concerned turned down the offer and suggested that the property be sold and the proceeds given to the society. This, however was declined by the hospital board. Another Home was also declined by the Branch concerned.

Another problem arose over a suggestion that a bequest to the society should be relinquished in favour of an indigent blind brother of the testator who was living in England. To comply with this suggestion meant an amendment of the society's rules which only its annual conference could authorise.

There were complaints and suggestions from Branches regarding the use of Nuffield Trust Funds to say nothing of the proposals made by State Departments, Hospital Boards, the B.M.A. and other authorities. They promised full co-operation but procedure sometimes required ironing out. It is not surprising that at an early meeting of the executive council it was decided to ask the honorary solicitor, Mr. Campbell Spratt, to attend meetings of the council.

Branches were advised to use Press and Broadcasting publicity to further the work of the society. Certain amalgamations of proposed Branches were approved subject to confirmation at the annual meeting.

A proposal to affiliate with the International Society for the Welfare of Cripples was turned down by the council when it found the membership fee was 100 dollars. The council decided that the need to conserve funds at home made its decision necessary. It did agree, however, that Mr. Guthrie, an associate member of the

Council for the Care of Cripples, London, should represent the society at the International Society's conference at St. Louis.

It has been shown in previous chapters that from 1931 when the Wellington Rotary Club investigated the problems relating to Crippled Children, awareness throughout the Dominion of the problems of the crippled child grew increasingly. Surveys made confirmed the fact that the number of cripples in the Dominion was much greater than had at first been visualised. Further, there was a great lack of the follow-up treatment and supervision of cases which had proved so successful in Great Britain.

This was partially due to lack of funds. There was ample hospital accommodation in those years but free treatment was reserved for the indigent and the means test was very strictly applied. Moreover, there was a charge which was not negligible made for out-patient visits and treatment.

Hospital Boards of one district were reluctant to transfer patients to another district because they had to guarantee the costs of the service and indeed the larger hospitals would not receive such patients without such a guarantee.

One Medical Superintendent put the matter very succinctly when he wrote "Under Section 92, except in urgent cases, no patients can be accepted from other than this territory unless previous arrangements as to finance have been made."

An instance of the economic difficulties affecting hospital boards in those early post-depression years was provided in a case of hardship reported to the society. It concerned a country crippled child first admitted to the Palmerston North Hospital and later referred to the Wellington Hospital for special orthopaedic treatment. On arrival at Wellington the child was refused admission until the question of hospital charges was settled with the Palmerston North authorities. Mr. and Mrs. Gillies resolved the difficulty temporarily by taking the child into their own home and treatment did not therefore suffer unduly. When the matter was first considered by the council it was reported that whilst the caliper ordered by the doctor had been supplied its boots had not—pending settlement of the argument as to which hospital should pay for them! Truly the Welfare State was then a very puny infant, and the shadow of the depression years was over all forms of local government.

The problem of follow-up treatment and supervision of cases was noted as one of great importance. It will be seen later (Chapters XI and XII) the means taken towards the problem's solution.

One of the final decisions made by the council at that meeting was to issue an annual report and to hold an annual conference of branches in connection with its statutory annual meeting. The date chosen was August 4th and Branches were reminded that they must bear individually the expenses of the delegates they sent to the conference.

Chapter VIII

FIRST ANNUAL REPORT

THE SOCIETY'S first annual report detailed the Nuffield and Wilson gifts coincident with the foundation of the society. The report listed the branches formed and pointed out that the Auckland Branch covered much of the Province outside the city of Auckland and the districts surrounding it (including sub-branches at Whangarei, Tauranga, Hamilton, Rotorua and Whakatane). The Hawke's Bay Branch was shared by the Napier and Hastings districts. Dannevirke had amalgamated with Palmerston North with the approval of the Palmerston North Hospital Board. Masterton would operate throughout the Wairarapa area, Christchurch had taken over the West Coast districts after Greymouth had decided it could not organise satisfactorily the work on the West Coast. Gore had joined with Invercargill, and Taihape, Marton and Patea were prepared to join with Wanganui. The boundaries of the other branches, the report stated, were those of the hospital district in which each Branch operated.

The report detailed the activities of Branches, paid tribute to the "splendid work" in vocational training performed at public hospitals and urged Branches to supplement it and assist in developing crippled children into "self-supporting independent units in the Dominion's economic system." This was indeed the main work of the society.

The spheres in which the executive and the Branches operated were also explained, as was the method to be used by Branches desirous of sending crippled children from smaller to larger hospitals for specialist treatment.

The report set out the position of the Nuffield Trust and the Wilson Home and pointed out that Homes offered in two other districts had been declined by the Branches concerned. Thanks to the Wellington Rotary Club, displays of "Titania's Palace" at various centres had been made without risk to the society and had brought £3225 to its funds. Details were given of the Mayors' appeals in 32 centres, which brought in £1213/1/3.

FIRST ANNUAL MEETING

The first annual meeting was held at Wellington at which delegates from 14 Branches attended. Amendments to the rules suggested by the executive council were adopted. The distribution of the income from the Nuffield Trust as suggested by a special sub-committee was approved subject to the Trustees agreeing to refund to Branches the sums raised by the Mayors' appeals. The trustees subsequently agreed to this condition.

The meeting expressed admiration for the efforts made by the Auckland Branch to raise an endowment fund large enough to enable the Branch to operate the Wilson Home and expressed regret that unless further endowment funds could be obtained the Auckland Branch might not be able to accept the generous offer of Mr. and Mrs. Wilson.

Legislation making it easier for local bodies to incur expenditure on behalf of crippled children was recommended, as was the establishment of special schools in the main centres for seriously handicapped crippled children. It was also decided to ask the Government to relax the medical tests for admission to the Public Service of crippled children recommended by the society or its branches. Special apprenticeship conditions re training or wages for crippled adolescents were to be discussed with the Minister of Labour. Votes of thanks to Lord Nuffield, Mr. and Mrs. Wilson, the executive council and its honorary officers concluded the meeting.

Chapter IX

CONSOLIDATION PROCEEDS

THE PERIOD following the first annual meeting and conference with Branches was one of consolidation. The national council was asked for advice by Branches on many occasions, some of the problems stated being essentially matters for Branch responsibility. They were handled sympathetically by the council but the trend of its advice was always towards increasing Branch capability to deal with individual difficulties and to extend Branch reliance upon local efforts. The soundness of this council policy has been demonstrated over the years. There has been a steady reduction in the number of individual problems on which advice was sought by Branches and progressive realisation that the national council must deal with matters of national rather than of local importance and that the autonomy Branches enjoy carries with it the responsibility for overcoming purely local problems.

In the 1937-38 period among matters referred to the council were: The future of the Wilson Home, another poliomyelitis epidemic, allocation of "Art Union" funds, Cook Island crippled children, discussions with State authorities on education, technical training and pensions, and the establishment of travelling orthopaedic clinics. Among the council's own share in problems was the desire of the honorary secretary, the late Mr. Malcolm Fraser, to retire. He was persuaded to remain and in February, 1937, Mr. C. Meachen was appointed assistant secretary.

At the second annual meeting and conference held in August, 1937, general progress was noted. A new Branch (Stratford) had been formed during the year and the number of registrations had increased to 1409.

Co-operation with the Department of Education regarding itinerant teachers and in regard to precautions during the poliomyelitis epidemic was recorded with gratitude. The acceptance by the Auckland Hospital Board of the Wilson Home and the Home's availability for crippled children throughout the Dominion solved a major problem and earned praise for the Auckland Branch for its tactful negotiations with the Hospital Board. The meeting agreed

that revenue from Lord Nuffield's endowment fund of £10,000 should be paid to the Hospital Board until such time as any other Home is opened.

The rules were amended slightly, clarifying the phrase "mentally deficient" by the insertion of the words "not educable."

The council was asked to discuss with the Maori Affairs Department the problems of training Maori crippled children, and to seek from the Health Department advice to Branches of any crippled children noted by the department's school doctors and nurses.

Already the problem of the adolescent cripple was making itself felt and at the first meeting of the council subsequent to the conference Branches were urged to make special efforts to provide vocational training and to co-operate with employers and trade unions in finding suitable employment for the handicapped.

Chapter X

MAORI CHILDREN

QUITE EARLY IN 1938 arose the question of assistance to Maori children in keeping with the society's rule that its work applies to all New Zealand children irrespective of colour, creed or social standing. In April, 1938, after consultation with the under-secretary Department of Maori Affairs, Mr. G. A. E. Kensington, a conference was arranged between representatives of the Taranaki, Wanganui and Manawatu Branches, the Medical Officers of Health at Palmerston North and New Plymouth and representatives of the Maori Affairs Department to see how Maori crippled children could best be helped. The council allocated £250 for experiments by the Branches mentioned.

The establishment of travelling orthopaedic clinics was again considered by the council in June, 1938.

The third annual meeting and conference with Branches received a report from the honorary secretary, the late Mr. Malcolm Fraser, on work for crippled children being carried out overseas, thus quickening interest in the work of other countries.

The conference recommended: (a) The establishment of four residential hostels at which crippled children could receive physiotherapeutic treatment and education, suitable sites to be chosen in the four chief provinces of the Dominion and a report be submitted to Branches before the next conference; (b) regulations for entry into the Public Service to be relaxed when necessary so that crippled children can enter the Service; (c) Industrial Legislation and Basic Wage regulations be amended or the earnings of crippled children be subsidised by pensions.

The conference supported a proposal to establish an orthopaedic hospital for chronic cases, such hospital to be administered by the Hospital Boards of the southern part of the North Island and the northern part of the South Island with a joint medical staff of orthopaedic surgeons from these hospitals to supervise the work.

The report of the special committee on Maori children was submitted to the conference. It referred to the reluctance of parents to seek advice, pointed out that compulsion was not desirable, education in hygiene and child welfare was essential and would in

time diminish prejudices that now exist. The committee expressed its thanks for the co-operation shown by the Health, the Maori Affairs and the Education Departments respectively as well as by the hospital authorities.

Control of the Wilson Home by a committee of five members representing the Auckland Hospital Board and three from the society was also approved.

Chapter XI

CLOSER CO-ORDINATION

NO SOONER HAD the conference ended than the council made two decisions of moment. The first was that the society would bear the cost of bringing a crippled child from Rarotonga to Wellington for treatment. The second decision was to send the assistant secretary, Mr. C. Meachen, on a visit to certain branches to explain the Executive's policy and methods, and to give broad-costs at Christchurch and Dunedin detailing the work and aims of the Society. This initial method of co-ordinating even more closely the work of the Executive with that of the branches has since been adopted from time to time with marked success.

The early part of the year 1939 saw increased attention given by the national council to the establishment of travelling orthopaedic clinics. The clinics held by Mr. Gillies at Wanganui had, it was reported, indicated that such clinics meant early discovery of cases and gave indication also of a crippled child's future needs. To bring the matter to a successful conclusion the chairman of the council, the late Mr. Frank Campbell, urged that £500 be allocated to the North and South Island respectively for the establishment and extension of "this invaluable work" with the co-operation of the Department of Health. After inquiry it was decided to bring the suggested grant of £1000 before the next conference with Branches to be held in August, 1939. It can be stated here that the conference approved the allocation.

In July Mr. Justice (now Sir David) Smith resigned from the presidency of the national council. Sir Charles Norwood succeeded him and still holds the position (1960).

Further progress was reported at the fourth annual meeting and conference with Branches. Registrations had advanced in three years from 1400 to 2193 but it was thought there were at least another 1000 cases to be discovered and that the travelling clinics would help in this direction.

Reference was made to a further gift of £7500 from Lord Nuffield during the past year (see Chapter IV) and approval was given to visits by the executive officer of the national council to Branches. A grant of £1000 for a scholarship for a young doctor

was approved, the award to be made by the executive council in conjunction with the New Zealand Medical Research Council.

Other recommendations to the executive council were (a) that it lay down a policy regarding finance obligations and responsibility of Branches to obtain uniformity; (b) that it consider the advisability of forming Craft Centres for the employment of cripples unable to find other employment; (c) endeavour to obtain free railway transport for a crippled child and its escort travelling to a main centre for special hospital treatment; (d) consider such costs for some branches when allocating funds; (e) examine the rules and recommend any alterations deemed necessary to the next conference.

The retirement of the honorary secretary, the late Mr. Malcolm Fraser, was received with regret. The appointment of Mr. C. Meachen as secretary was approved, with the right to hold other appointments. Mr. Meachen held the part-time secretaryship until 1959 when a decision by the biennial conference that a full-time secretary should be appointed led to his resignation. During his 20 years of association with the Society Mr. Meachen rendered loyal and efficient service which was ended at his own desire.

Chapter XII

TRAVELLING CLINICS

IN DECEMBER, 1939, the executive council received a donation by the Canterbury Branch of £50 to be allocated to smaller Branches needing assistance. This practical sympathy with such Branches was most heartening and the council placed on record its appreciation of the generosity. It shared the gift between two of the smaller branches in the South Island. The Canterbury example was followed later by Wellington which gave £50 to be divided between three smaller branches in the Wellington Province.

At the fifth annual meeting and conference in August, 1940, tribute was paid to the work of the former honorary secretary the late Mr Malcolm Fraser. Reference was made to the transport of a Cook Island girl to Wellington for successful treatment and the annual report made it plain that the society's work extends to all the New Zealand dependencies.

Arrangements made with the Department of Health and an allocation of £1000 to the Department for the extension of travelling clinics were approved. Thus the institution of travelling clinics passed from the experimental stage to its present position as one of the major efforts of the society.

Such an effort could not be hurried and details of its growth and success therefore merit inclusion in this record of the society's programme.

Personal efforts to treat crippled patients in or near to their home districts has been made by individual surgeons practising in metropolitan areas before the Crippled Children Society was formed. These efforts were however, more or less spasmodic. It remained for the Crippled Children Society to develop on a Dominion-wide basis a system of "bringing treatment to the patient, in areas distant from main hospitals rather than requiring the patient to make long journeys to obtain advice and treatment. A system, that is to say, which followed the principles of modern orthopaedic relief methods inaugurated by Sir Robert Jones in England to which reference has been made in chapters I-VII.

Sir Alexander Gillies has kindly supplied the following details of the establishment and development of the system:—

"Initially," Sir Alexander reports, "travelling clinics under the newly formed Crippled Children Society were held in the Nelson district in 1936, Wanganui and Manawatu districts in 1937, and Hawke's Bay, Taranaki and Wairarapa in 1938. They included Nelson, Wanganui, Palmerston North, Dannevirke, Hawera, Napier, Hastings and Masterton. Sometimes children from other districts were sent to one of these clinics. e.g., children came from Patea to the Wanganui Clinics.

"These clinics, till 1940 were usually held at the public hospital by invitation of the Medical Superintendent, but where such arrangements were not possible, doctors and members of the branches lent their homes.

"In home-bound cases the surgeon was transported to the home of the cripple.

"So in the years 1936 to 1940, hundreds of children passed through the clinics, the society finding the cripples wherever they were, transporting them to the clinics and endeavouring in its follow-up system to facilitate the carrying-out of any recommendation of the honorary visiting orthopaedic surgeon, including operative treatment in other hospitals.

"These clinics were attended by the Welfare Officers who quickly assumed an indispensable role, a secretary, and a splint and surgical bootmaker, when the latter could be made available.

"There is no doubt that such an influx of patients requiring treatment provided many difficulties at both local and base hospitals. As in Wellington, accommodation was at a premium everywhere, whilst the difficulty of supplying splints and surgical boots also became acute. Many fields could not be covered any longer because of the expenditure involved.

"But by Conference's approval of the arrangement with the Health Department, already referred to, any branch of the society can now apply to the Department of Health through the Council for a travelling clinic to be held in its district. The Department then consults with the Hospital Board concerned for release of personnel, etc."

Coming from one of the orthopaedic surgeons who conducted "country clinics" before the Crippled Children Society was formed, the following details kindly supplied by Mr. W. S. Robertson are also of interest. They emphasise again the careful organisation needed to bring the society's effort to success.

After detailing his work (as a private practitioner) in country districts before the founding of the Crippled Children Society and therefore outside its history, Mr Robertson reports:—

"At the outbreak of the Second World War in 1939, I was detailed by the Medical Authorities for service as Orthopaedic Specialist at the Wellington Hospital once more, to organise the Department in readiness for our returning battle casualties and I was thus again in closer

contact with the Crippled Children Society, which at this time, since its origin in 1935, had extended or was extending its district coverage by Branches and Welfare Officers all over New Zealand.

"The flow of Crippled Children through the Wellington Hospital became considerable, and the 'follow up' problem was giving rise to difficulties. Many of the children lived in remote districts, necessitating long journeys to Wellington for a check up, with a possible over-night stop, or alternative admission to hospital with the occupation of a valuable bed on arrival there.

"Much inconvenience could be saved to all by taking the clinic to the patient instead of vice versa. New cases could also be seen and their disposal arranged. This procedure had the utmost support of the Crippled Children Society, Hospital Boards and Department of Health and was instigated forthwith.

"Incidentally its value was proved in the after care of patients in the 1947-48 Polio epidemic.

"In the early days I was able to make only a few irregular visits to West Coast hospitals (where some clinics were established by Sir A. Gillies in 1937 including those of Wanganui and Hawera). Later on these places were efficiently dealt with by the late Mr. J. Cunninghame. Personally I conducted regular schedule clinics at the East Coast Hospitals by three-monthly visits, which, with the exception of a few breaks when I was absent from New Zealand, I carried on until the time of my retiral in 1954. My territory was Blenheim, Greytown, Masterton, Waipukurau, Hastings, Napier and Wairoa, one day being spent at each clinic usually, and then on to Gisborne for my usual three weeks.

"When the travelling Clinics were fully established, their personnel would include a shorthand typist, who kept the records to date from dictation—a wonderful time-saving procedure. Also in attendance was an Orthopaedic Technician from the hospital workshops, usually Mr. McCaw, who was kept well occupied in fitting appliances, measuring for splints and surgical boots, adjusting or repairing those already ordered, and so forth. To him and other technicians who carried out similar duties I extend my sincere thanks for their valuable help.

"Without the whole-hearted co-operation of the Crippled Children Society and its local branches, and in particular its Welfare Officers, the clinics would not, and could not, have been successful. A great amount of spade work is needed on the part of these individuals in seeing that the children are getting their adequate treatment, supervising their splinting, rounding them up for examination, and in general keeping an eye on their welfare at all times. I am grateful to all these officers of the society for their devotion to its objective, and for the help they gave me.

"I also wish to pay a tribute to the background work, and enormous enthusiasm of Mr. Meachen in the assistance and encouragement he gave me, not only in the organisation of the clinics, but in many other ways likely to further the society's efforts in alleviating the lot of the disabled child."

Chapter XIII

A CHARTER OF GUIDANCE

IN ADDITION to its approval of the establishment of travelling clinics the 1940 Conference discussed amendments to the Society's rules recommended by a special sub-committee and these were also approved. Support was given to Wellington's efforts to obtain an orthopedic hospital.

Assistance to the Gisborne Branch in effecting reorganisation was approved by the national council in September, 1940, and in November Canterbury made a further gift of £50 for the assistance of smaller branches.

Another important outcome of the 1940 conference discussion on policy matters was the issue in February, 1941, by the National Council to all Branches of a booklet setting forth the policy of the society and the lines on which it is to work. The booklet was the outcome of deliberations by a special committee of members drawn from the national council and from some of the major branches. The committee therefore approached its task with both local and national experience as its guide.

The booklet covered a wide field of endeavour. It contained warnings against duplication of work for crippled children already obtainable from State or other organisations, laid down that it was not considered advisable for the society to establish Homes, Hospitals or Institutions for cripples in the meantime, but funds available should "be used directly for the relief of crippled children and not diverted to the maintenance and administration of institutions." In accordance with this policy any Branch desirous of acquiring property or buildings must receive approval by the national council.

After detailing the State and other aid available for cripples and pointing the way to the organisation and administration of Branches in order that such aid may be complemented by the society, the booklet referred to the future of crippled children when they become adolescents and require means of earning a livelihood. To assist in the solution of this problem is noted as one of the most important duties of the society and ways and means of carrying it out were suggested. Although definite advice was given regarding the means and method of work by Branches and

they were advised that in any conflict of opinion that of the National Council must prevail, the booklet was advisory rather than mandatory. It pleaded for co-operation not only with existing State and other agencies, but also between the National Council and Branches and above all with the medical profession from whom so much assistance must be sought.

It was a masterly and thoroughgoing presentation of the society's policy and methods. It was flexible enough to permit modifications as Branches grew in stature and as their needs and their resources expanded. But speaking by and large it was a charter of guidance that has served the society well. For sixteen years there was no suggestion that major alterations in the "charter" were desirable. In 1957 conference decided that this should be inquired into (by means of a questionnaire sent to all Branches) by a special committee. The result of the inquiry is dealt with in a later chapter. The 1941 booklet, however, has aided the work of the parent society to continue on sound lines. There is therefore little to record in its year by year history. Certain actions were of outstanding importance and deserve a place in this chronicle.

Among these was the creation of a basis for distribution of funds by the National Executive:—

Increasing interest in the work of the society and increasing income from the Nuffield Trust faced the Executive with the problem of distributing available income to the Branches in the best way to stimulate sections of their work which needed encouragement. In June, 1941, a committee was set up consisting of Messrs. W. G. Black and John Ilott to report on the best method for the distribution of funds.

The committee took its job very seriously and secured Balance Sheets and Statements of Income and Expenditure from each Branch. These were analysed in detail and after a two day session in Palmerston North the committee produced a report which, with modifications, has remained as the basis for the allocation of income throughout the subsequent years.

The Minutes show that in August, 1941, following a meeting of the Executive Council, Messrs. W. G. Black and J. M. A. Illott submitted to the Executive Council a very comprehensive survey made up of three documents and accompanied by a detailed analysis of Branch Annual Returns and Financial Statements.

At the 6th Annual General Meeting on 21st August, 1941, Conference considered the report of Messrs. Black and Ilott, and after considerable discussion resolved "that the whole question of distribution of income of the Society be left in the hands of the Executive Council, with power to act."

To complete the story it can be stated here that the matter was further discussed at the 7th Annual Meeting held on the 25th August, 1942 (there was no conference that year) when Mr. J.

M. A. Ilott as Convener of the distribution of income sub-committee, presented recommendations in connection with the distribution of the society's income available for that year. Mr. Ilott said he had taken the opportunity of co-opting the assistance of Mr. W. G. Black (Palmerston North) and he paid a compliment to the great help he had received from Mr. Black

The report continued: "The amount available for distribution this year is approximately 11% less than last year's figure and the sub-committee were anxious, if possible, to maintain the principle recommended in last year's report and approved by the Executive under various sections of Expenditure and Income, so that a subsidy could be made on a definite basis. Last year this was as follows:—

Welfare work	.....	10/-	in the £.
Direct Benefits	.....	3/4	in the £.
Cases	.....	5/-	per case.
Subscriptions	.....	1/8	in the £.

This basis was used in making distribution to the eight major Branches and specific grants were made to the nine smaller branches. After very careful consideration, the sub-committee recommended that the basis of distribution should be as follows:—

Welfare work	.....	10/-	in the £.
Direct Benefits	.....	3/-	in the £.
Cases	.....	3/-	per case.
Subscriptions	.....	1/8	in the £.

The recommendation was approved and, as stated previously, the flexibility of the sub-committee's design enabled it to remain as the basis for the allocation of income.

Meanwhile in April, 1941, a special grant of £125 was made to the New Plymouth Branch to aid in keeping three boys at the local High School. Their conditions were an outcome of the 1925 epidemic and the cost of keeping them as boarders at the High School bore heavily on the resources of a small branch.

It was decided that month to approach the Mental Hospitals Department for spastic children to be admitted to the Templeton Institution, and the annual report (1940-41) laid it down that the education and vocational training of crippled children is the responsibility of the State. The Society's branches would co-operate with existing State Institutions, would assist with transport and maintenance and with wage subsidies. It is not the society's duty, however, to determine what State institutions should be established and whether they should be specialised, nor, if specialised, what particular craft should each centre specialise.

Chapter XIV

WAR CONDITIONS

OWING TO WAR conditions, including the limitation of transport facilities, no conference was held in 1942. The annual meeting of the society was held in August and satisfaction was expressed at the general growth of the Branches. Reference was made to the following offers made to the Government, namely:—

£1000 for travelling orthopaedic clinics, £1000 for occupational therapy, £1000 for equipment for special vocational training. It was anticipated that full advantage would be taken of these offers in due course.

Reference was made also to the establishment of the travelling clinics in the North Island (detailed in the previous chapter) and to those organised by Mr. Leslie Will, Christchurch, at the West Coast of the South Island. The hope was expressed that such clinics would be extended when the services of orthopaedic surgeons were available.

Branches were urged to obtain a special arrangement with hospital boards in their districts for the treatment of cleft palate cases by Dr. H. P. and Dr. C. Pickerill. Experience had proved that these cases when dealt with early by an expert were generally capable of much improvement and often of complete cure.

These doctors, as private practitioners, had been treating cleft palate and hare lip babies since 1927. In 1941 they agreed with the Wellington Hospital Board to treat such cases at their private hospital, "Bassam," Lower Hutt, a main feature of the agreement being that mothers should accompany and care for the babies while in hospital for treatment. This "mother nursing" in an institution licensed by the Department of Health was then regarded with much reservation by the medical and nursing professions. The use of this system at Bassam has, however, been an outstanding success.

Branches were advised that by co-operation with hospital boards the treatment at Bassam could be obtained at an especially low charge. It can be stated here that the arrangements which began with the Wellington Hospital in 1941, are still working satisfactorily

with many hospital boards and branches of the Society. Dr. H. P. Pickerill died in 1956, but the work is still being continued by Dr. C. M. Pickerill.

A poliomyelitis outbreak in Canterbury was reported in May, 1943. Fortunately there was less crippling effect in many of the cases.

Rules governing travelling orthopaedic clinics were drafted and sent to the Department of Health for comment.

The annual meeting of the Society and conference of Branches was held in September, 1943. The Conference was opened by the Minister of Health, the Hon. A. H. Nordmeyer, who congratulated the society on its achievements and growth.

Branches were again urged to support the travelling orthopaedic clinics because experience had shown their value in obtaining early diagnosis as well as in according highly specialised treatment to children in many cases without their having to travel to one of the metropolitan hospitals. Fourteen quarterly clinics had been established during the year and thanks were due to the co-operation shown by the medical profession, the Department of Health and hospital authorities. The names of Mr. R. Renfrew White (Dunedin), and Mr. J. K. Cunningham (Wellington), were added to those mentioned in the 1943 annual report as having "made the clinics possible during a period when our country is on a complete war footing."

The problem of cerebral palsy was making itself felt throughout the Dominion and Branches were asked to supply the Executive Council with full information from their respective districts. This, it was pointed out, would enable the council to approach the authorities with a complete national analysis of the position.

Emphasis was also laid upon the need for prevention of crippling and for the early discovery of cases of crippled children. Branches were urged to avail themselves of the help available from School Medical Officers, District Nurses and teachers.

Successful visits to Branches by the secretary, Mr. C. Meachen, had spread information regarding the society's aims and methods, and the Council assured Branches that it would consider ways and means of forming a national publicity scheme to keep the public informed adequately.

Branches promised continued support and the conference ended in a spirit of optimism.

Chapter XV

DEATH OF TWO STALWARTS

THE NATIONAL COUNCIL had to draw upon the optimism engendered at the 1943 conference very early in 1944. For in January the death occurred of Mr. W. J. Black, president of the Manawatu Branch. "Blackie," as he was known to so many interested in the society, was a foundation member of the society, a member of the national council and a wise adviser to members of Branches, large or small, when they were first adjusting their efforts to a common purpose. He carried out much pioneer work in the period when the society was being established and his enthusiasm for its work and progress was unbounded.

In March of 1944 the National Council lost its chairman and the society another of its "Greathearts" when Mr. Frank Campbell passed away. He had been chairman of the National Executive since its establishment in 1936 and his devotion to the progress of the society was known and recognised by all associated with its work. His chief characteristic was kindness—whether towards a crippled child or in approaching the problems that affected any Branch of this society. There was no sentimentality in such an approach. He did not hesitate to speak plainly when he thought a Branch was in error or taking an unwise course, but he was equally ready and had the ability to show the way out of mistakes. In season and out Mr. Campbell urged the establishment of the travelling orthopaedic clinics. It is safe to say that their expansion and success is just the memorial to his work that Frank Campbell would have wished.

In August the council received Lord Nuffield's tribute to Mr. Campbell's work. In Chapter XII reference is made to the extension of the society's aid to a Cook Island crippled child while Mr. Campbell was chairman of the National Council. It would seem certain that such an interpretation of its scope by the Council would appeal strongly to Lord Nuffield's world-wide philanthropy by which the society has benefitted so substantially.

Mr. Campbell was succeeded as chairman by Sir Alexander Roberts, also a foundation member of the society who had shared in its pioneering days.

In May and June the council considered suggestions made by

the Auckland Branch regarding the establishment there of an institution for the occupational training of crippled adolescents. It was decided to advise Auckland that the council considered such training was the duty of the State. It was also suggested that training might be best obtained through arrangements with employers with, possibly, subsidisation of wages.

Branches were urged in August to follow the suggestions made in the booklet on post-operation speech training for cases of hare lip and cleft palate. At the request of the Plunket Society, made to the Manawatu Branch, the council promised to inquire whether it was feasible to have the testing for tuberculosis of cows supplying milk for human consumption made compulsory.

It was also decided to ask the Minister of Health to arrange that Social Security funds be made available to reimburse hospital boards for fees charged by specialists outside their own staffs.

As war conditions still obtained it was decided not to have a conference of Branches in 1944. At the annual meeting of the society in November that year reference was made to the loss the society had sustained by the death of Mr. Black and of Mr. Campbell and high tributes were paid to their work and personalities.

Growth of membership throughout the Dominion: an increase in the number of registered cases showing activity in seeking them in all Branches: the expansion of the work of the travelling orthopaedic clinics were, it was considered matters for warm commendation. The names of Mr. Alan McDonald, Mr. G. Jennings, Mr. Morris Axford, Mr. McDairmid and Mr. Selwyn Morris were added to those to whom thanks were due for assisting in the establishment and conduct of travelling clinics. Satisfaction was also expressed at the continued co-operation and help shown by the Departments of Health, Maori Affairs and Education, including that accorded by the Minister in charge of each department.

Chapter XVI

"POLIO" TREATMENTS

A SUGGESTION made by the Nelson Branch that a liaison officer should be appointed to act at Wellington for Branches sending cases there for treatment was considered by the national council early in 1945. It was decided to continue the present system, in which Wellington gave other Branches assistance with such cases, but that a special grant be made to the Wellington Branch to cover expenses incurred.

In February the secretary, Mr. C. Meachen, went overseas as Red Cross Commissioner with the N.Z. Expeditionary Force. Mr. A. E. Tarrant was appointed acting secretary and in the annual report 1944-45 his work as such was praised. The executive considered Mr. Meachen's appointment as Red Cross Commissioner was a tribute to the high quality of his humanitarian work.

Although outside the society's operations, the establishment of a hospital, under the direction of Sister Dryden, through the generosity of Sir Thomas and Lady Duncan, was an important addition to the treatment of "polio" cases. Branches were advised that applications for admission to this hospital must be made direct to Sister Dryden as the society had no jurisdiction over the hospital and the treatment accorded there.

In reply to Branch inquiries it was decided in May that in regard to charges for surgical footwear the rule should be that if the footwear was for a chronic case in which further treatment was not indicated the patient must pay. If the footwear was remedial its cost should be met by the hospital board concerned.

Another matter in regard to the treatment of "polio" patients came before the council in July, 1945. Branches had asked whether their funds could be rightfully used in enabling patients to receive what was then known as the "Sister Kenny" treatment.

The council decided that where this treatment was desired by parents and there was no objection by a Branch's medical adviser, the Branch would be in order in giving assistance for the treatment to be obtained.

Later in the year the Council decided to seek the views of the Sister Kenny International Body, U.S.A., on Sister Kenny's work

and methods about which there was much controversy at that time.

One of the council's most important decisions in 1945 was that the Minister of Health should be offered £1000 to bring a specialist from overseas to study the problem of spastic paralysis. Reports and statistics from Branches showed the extent and urgency of the problem.

In December the council commended the Auckland Branch for including within its boundaries the Cook Islands, entailing as it must considerable expense in transport and adding considerably to the responsibilities of the Auckland Branch.

Chapter XVII

ADOLESCENT PROBLEMS

THE CONFERENCE of Branches held in April, 1946, endorsed the national council's offer to the Government of £1000 towards the expense of bringing from overseas a specialist in the treatment of cerebral palsy.

The council was urged to suggest that crippled adolescents be admitted as apprentices in addition to the normal number of apprentices allowed to an employer.

A further suggestion was that the Education Department be asked to provide transport of crippled children from their homes to school and back.

A bursary was recommended to the council for a trainee in Occupational Therapy to go overseas, or, as an alternative, that a specialist be brought to the Dominion for teaching therapists.

A comprehensive report on the training and duties of Field Officers submitted by Mrs. Mackay, Christchurch, was much appreciated.

Other recommendations were (a) that the Education Department be urged to train more speech therapists, (b) that hostels be established in connection with sheltered workshops, (c) that delays in holding travelling clinics be eliminated.

In June, 1946, Sir A. Roberts resigned from the chairmanship of the council owing to ill-health. Sir Charles Norwood, President of the Society, acted as Chairman of the Council temporarily.

A new phase in publicising the work of the society was furthered by the offer of films from the National Film Library. Later in the year it was decided to purchase from the U.S.A. a film showing treatment of cerebral palsy cases and to accept the offer of the loan of a film made by the N.S.W. Society.

Mr. George Park, who had done so much in the establishment and progress of the Auckland Branch was asked to become a member of the Council.

The international aspect of the work for crippled children had become more emphasised. In December, 1946, the council decided to ask the International Society for the Welfare of Cripples to send details of its work and organisation.

The year closed with approval of an "Easter Seal" or some form of National Appeal to the public for support of the society's work. But at a meeting of Branch representatives held the following June the "Easter Seal" was not approved.

Chapter XVIII

METHODS REVIEWED

THE YEAR 1947 was one of much importance. In April it was decided to ask the Health Department to invite Dr. Earl Carlson, an American specialist in the treatment of cerebral palsy, to visit the Dominion and advise the society in regard to a national policy for dealing with this condition. The decision was aided by the generous offer of the Auckland Branch to provide £500 towards the expense of bringing Dr. Carlson to New Zealand. A month later the Minister of Health notified the Council that Dr. Carlson had been invited.

In May the establishment of a Branch at Tauranga was approved.

A month later a meeting of presidents and secretaries of Branches was held at which recommendations were set out regarding the principles that should guide the Council and be accepted by Branches as the policy to be followed but with variations in special circumstances.

Two of the recommendations were of major importance. They were (a) That any Branch can establish an institution so long as it does not demand support for it from the New Zealand Society; (b) that a portion of the Nuffield Trust income be put aside for five years for the treatment of spastics.

Sir Charles Norwood having intimated his desire to retire from the position of acting chairman during the illness of Sir Alexander Roberts, Mr. G. K. Hansard was chosen in December, 1947, to succeed him. Mr. Hansard continues to hold that position.

The annual conference of Branches was postponed until after Dr. Carlson's visit.

In November the death occurred of Mrs. W. R. Wilson, one of the donors of the Wilson Home for crippled children and an ardent supporter of the society's efforts in the Auckland district.

During the year the Dominion suffered from an outbreak of poliomyelitis. Its crippling effects were considerably smaller than in previous years and the Council congratulated the medical profession and hospital and education authorities on the manner in which the outbreak had been kept under control.

Chapter XIX

DR. EARL CARLSON'S VISIT

THE PROBLEM OF cerebral palsy received much emphasis during the year 1948. In February the society was notified of the establishment of a Parents' Association for the Welfare of the Cerebral Palsied and a branch was advised that the Council would deal with the association in future as cerebral palsy is to be treated as a national problem. Action would be postponed pending Dr. Earl Carlson's visit and advice.

At the same meeting of the council a comprehensive report by Mrs. Mackay (Christchurch) on the employment and duties of Welfare Officers was received with much appreciation. The report was circulated to branches with an intimation that in future only women should be appointed as welfare officers.

The highlight of the year was the visit of Dr. Carlson. He met the council in March and after visiting the four metropolitan areas submitted a lengthy report which was referred to a special sub-committee. The latter's report to the council contained the following recommendations.

- (1) There should be diagnostic centres at Auckland and Dunedin administered by the local Hospital Board.
- (2) The district Servicemen's Training Centres be made available for cerebral palsy cases.
- (3) The Government be asked to send staff to the U.S.A. for training under Dr. Carlson, Dr. Phelps or Dr. Carruthers.
- (4) The respective four responsibilities of the State and the Crippled Children Society, as laid down in the
- (5) Carlson report, be accepted except that transport of patients should be a responsibility of the State.
- (6) A Parents' Association should be supported.
- (7) Speech therapy most important. Its association with the Education Department's Correspondence School to be investigated.
- (8) It be urged that a wing of the Queen Elizabeth Hospital at Rotorua be made available for the treatment of cases of cerebral palsy.
- (9) The question of making Wilson Home a diagnostic and training centre requires more consideration.

- (10) Scholarships should be awarded only after careful consideration of individual cases.
- (11) The appointment of a Child Specialist be referred to a joint committee of the society and the Department of Health.

The council followed receipt of the sub-committee's report by a conference with the Department of Health in July. As its outcome it was reported that (1) a start had been made at Rotorua to set up a diagnostic and training centre; (2) it was difficult to establish residential schools as trained staff is essential and such teachers are in short supply; (3) the Minister of Education will be urged to establish day schools without delay; (4) as a staff trained in physical and occupational therapy is essential to the success of schools for the cerebral palsied a teacher should be sent overseas for training so as to train others on return to New Zealand; (5) Branches to receive some suggestions regarding equipment made by Mr. W. Robertson pending particulars of such equipment Dr. Carlson promised to supply.

A few weeks later, i.e. in September, these proposals and suggestions met with general approval at the 13th annual meeting of the society and conference of Branches. The council was asked to import copies of Dr. Carlson's book "Born That Way," and any other literature it thought appropriate and distribute such to Branches at their expense. It was urged that schools be established when 12 or more cerebral palsied pupils are available.

The council was asked to review the definition of a "crippled child" as some delegates to the conference considered it should be widened.

Shortly after the conference ended the council was asked to mediate in a wrangle between two branches over a canvass for funds. Once again tact and good sense prevailed.

It was still the "cerebral palsy" year of the society's activities for in October a bulletin of advice to parents of cerebral palsied children was issued and branches were urged to detail equipment required so as to save expense by having it made in bulk. One of the council's final actions in 1948 was to suggest that a joint statement by the society and the State be issued to the Press showing some of the features of a five-year plan for dealing with cerebral palsied children and adolescents.

A special grant of £2 for £1 was made to the Auckland Branch to enable a patient to go to the U.S.A. for treatment. It was made as return to a branch that had shown consistent generosity in the society's general work and to individual branches when its aid was sought.

A grant of £500 was made in November to enable a patient to go to Boston, U.S.A., for operative treatment by Dr. Smith-Petersen.

Chapter XX

FIELD OFFICERS

ONE OF THE council's first actions in 1949 was to assure the Department of Health that the society would continue its contribution towards the expense of maintaining the "travelling" orthopaedic clinics. They had won much praise wherever established, not only from Branch officials but also from parents of the young people seen by the visiting orthopaedic surgeons.

Cerebral palsy and its treatment was again discussed fully during the year. In March State authorities sought information regarding the establishment of day schools and in June the Minister of Education notified his concurrence in the suggested five-year plan for dealing with cerebral palsied children. Day schools were to be set up at Christchurch and Wellington, although there was no specially trained staff available. Teachers with general qualifications would, however, be chosen carefully for the work in the special schools. Meanwhile the establishment of a diagnostic and training centre at Rotorua proceeded, although in October the society was advised that patients could not be admitted until certain structural alterations had been made at the hospital.

Although the Minister of Education concurred in the five-year plan and the Minister of Health in a proposed statement for the Press regarding the plan, its publication was not approved by the Minister of Education and was therefore withheld.

Several administrative matters of importance were dealt with during 1949. A valuable report was received from Mrs. Mackay on the North Otago and South Canterbury branches which led in due course to satisfactory conditions being obtained in both districts.

Reference to branches showed a general opinion that conferences every two years instead of annually were preferable. It was therefore decided not to hold a conference in the current year and that conferences would be bi-annual in future.

A more intimate if not so important a decision was that a deduction of £2 from a bequest would be accepted as the money was to be used in putting the name of the legatee on his tombstone.

It was also decided that there was no need at present to alter the definition of a "crippled child" in the society's rules. It was

considered that the definition included squints, but branches were urged to consult their medical advisers in regard to cases in which they were in doubt.

A reminder of the society's close association with Rotary came when the Rotary Club at Sheffield, England, was asked to handle for the society a bequest left there by a man whose widow was left without means.

Interest in overseas work for crippled children was quickened when the council heard in August details of a visit made by Sir Charles Norwood to a children's hospital at Frankston, Victoria, and of visits made by Mr. Hansard to establishments for crippled children in New South Wales, especially one to the Spastic Centre at Mosman. The visits were made voluntarily and at no expense to the society. In December Mr. Hansard was asked to represent the society at executive meetings of the council and of the executive committee of the International Society for the Welfare of Cripples while on a visit to the United Kingdom.

The most important item of the society's general administration dealt with in 1949 was in regard to Welfare Officers. Branches were informed that the over-all policy of the society was that such officers should be employed by Branches wherever possible. For the guidance of Branches the following suggestions were made:

- (1) The better title would be Field Officers.
- (2) Qualifications: Appointees would be the better for teaching or nursing experience, but must have chiefly commonsense and sympathy. They need not be fully trained nurses. Health Department district nurses already do a wide coverage and their services should be enlisted for crippled children treatment.
- (3) Field Officers should work a five-day week, have 15 working days' holiday annually, plus any public holidays. Part-time field officers work to be based accordingly.
- (4) Transport: Where Field Officers provide their own cars they should be refunded costs on a mileage basis.
- (5) Salaries: Held over pending a new scale of salaries for nurses.
- (6) Superannuation: Could be arranged through the National Provident Fund.
- (7) Direction: As branches think fit.
- (8) Duties: Early discovery of cases is essential and Field Officers should use all existing agencies in furtherance of this. Field Officers should urge parents to consider the needs of a crippled child, but not for those outside the needs required by the physical condition of the child which should be treated as normally as is possible. Field Officers should follow up cases in their homes and keep in touch regarding the future employment of a crippled child. They should know the technique of hospital admittance,

the educational facilities available, work in close association with guidance officers, and know Social Security legislation.

At the 14th annual meeting, held in December, reference was made to the death of Mr. Malcolm Fraser, the society's first honorary secretary, and to the retirement of Miss Lambie, Department of Health, and Mr. McMurtrie, Department of Education, all of whom had rendered much service to the society.

There was some significance also in the chairman's reminder to the meeting that although a major problem, the treatment and training of the cerebral palsied was but one phase of the society's work.

Chapter XXI

SIR C. NORWOOD'S GIFT

THE YEAR 1950 opened with a minor administrative difficulty to be adjusted. The chairman of the council, Mr. Hansard, being too unwell to attend the council's meeting in February, it was discovered that the Society's rules did not provide for the appointment of a deputy-chairman. As Mr. Hansard contemplated a journey overseas, when he would represent the Society at the Triennial Congress of the International Society for the Welfare of Cripples at Stockholm, it was left to him to arrange for an acting-chairman during his absence. At his request Sir John Ilott accepted the position, which he has held until the present time (1960).

There were many appeals by Branches for assistance during the year and most of them were approved. In February a grant was made of a £2 to £1 subsidy on amounts raised by the North Otago Branch for the higher education of a crippled girl.

In May a grant of £400 was made towards the expense of a crippled child proceeding to Toronto for treatment. In November a grant of £26 was made towards enabling an apprenticeship for a cerebral palsied youth at Stratford.

In December a grant of £250 was offered to the East Coast-Poverty Bay Branch on certain conditions for the purchase of a motor-car. In doing so the council resolved that each of such applications must be treated on its merits. The grant was, however, subsequently declined by the Branch.

A ruling was given in February that orthopentic treatment was admissible for aid by the society in cases approved by the medical advisers of Branches. A month later it was agreed that it be suggested to Branches to advise parents of "blue babies" to send them to Auckland for treatment.

Whilst supporting an appeal made direct by the Dunedin Branch to the Minister of Education for a State grant of £50 for a spastic adolescent to receive university education, the council reminded the Branch that such communications with Ministers must be made by the council. The Branch was also advised that such assistance as that for which the State grant was sought should be given from

Branch funds. This was followed by a general reminder to all Branches that representations at Ministerial level must be made by the council.

A suggestion by the Canterbury Branch that the bi-annual conference be held at Christchurch as it was the centenary year of the Canterbury Province, was not approved. It was decided to hold the conference in Wellington during October.

A most important feature of the year's history was the generous establishment of a trust fund by Sir Charles Norwood (to produce £125 a year) for assistance to cerebral palsied cases within the Wellington Province, in obtaining training suitable for future occupation. This further demonstration of Sir Charles' devotion to the cause of the handicapped child was most heartening to the council.

It was finding the cerebral palsy problem could not be solved speedily. Nevertheless State and public efforts to assist in its solution continued during the year and in October the conference of Branches endorsed a statement made by the Minister of Health and Education on the State programme for the treatment and education of cerebral palsied children, including those of pre-school age. The attitude of Ministers and officers of both departments promised the closest co-operation with them by the society. Branches undertook to give the council details of expenditure on cerebral palsy cases. It was also decided that the special allocation fund for cerebral palsy (then amounting to £7250) should be left in a special fund for use when necessary.

Branches were reminded in July that help, when needed, with surgical footwear was a Branch responsibility and it was not considered desirable to seek further help in this direction from the State. Shortage of qualified bootmakers was admitted and the Minister promised to include if possible such tradesmen among assisted immigrants. At the conference it was decided to ask that surgical boots be provided out of social security funds.

Branches were advised to try and apprentice crippled lads to the surgical footwear departments of hospitals, although it was recognised that only at the major hospitals was it likely that such training was available.

Whilst agreeing to meet a committee of the Intellectually Handicapped Children's Parents' Association the council replied to a suggestion by the South Canterbury Branch, of affiliation with a committee of parents of mentally affected children, by pointing out that the society's policy and its definition of a crippled child did not include mentally affected.

Closer association with the International Society for the Assistance of Cripples was agreed to by the council on receipt in July of a report on Mr. Hansard's visit to the Society's meeting at Stockholm at which he was elected to the Finance Committee of

the International Society. A contribution of 100 dollars for the current year and £133 for 1951 was approved.

A suggestion by the Hawke's Bay Branch that a beneficiary be made a part-time Field Officer raised a matter of principle and was held over for discussion with the Branch.

A successful conference of Field Officers and secretaries was reported to the council with a suggestion that such conferences should be held annually in different towns at the discretion of the council.

At the bi-annual conference the council was asked to seek, at a suitable time, State facilities for the training of crippled children. Reclassification of cases by Branches in submitting their annual statistics was urged, medical advisers to be consulted regarding correct classification. Visual education by films was supported and the society's aid promised to the Departments of Health and Transport in their efforts in the prevention of accidents. Conference also approved the suggestions of the sub-committee set up by the council to consider the definition of a "crippled child." As the definition was again amended in 1955 it is not considered necessary to set it out in detail here. There was little change in the general contour.

Conference also endorsed the duties, etc., of Field Officers as detailed in Chapter XIX.

The issue of a booklet "Bringing Up Crippled Children" was approved in principle in December and the N.Z. Council for Education and Research asked to investigate costs of publication of 2500 copies for distribution. It was subsequently decided to issue the booklet, which, with its valuable suggestions for parents, teachers, and nurses, was prepared by Miss Millicent V. Kennedy and Professor H. C. D. Somerset. It was a joint issue of the New Zealand Council for Educational Research in association with the New Zealand Crippled Children Society, and has not only a wide circulation in New Zealand and Australia but has been most favourably received throughout the world. "New Zealand delegates to the Overseas Congresses of the International Society for the Welfare of Cripples," reports Sir John Illott, "have been delighted to hear from representatives of other countries attending the Congresses that it is regarded as the most practical and valuable book of its kind issued thus far. It is indeed interesting to note that the International Society itself has asked for permission to bring the material up-to-date and reprint the volume."

A letter received that month from the Minister of Health describing the system of the training of physio-therapists, the number available and other details was warmly approved.

The year ended with the retirement from the council of Mr. S. M. Hobbs, who had retired from active practice as a public accountant and taken up residence at Tauranga.

Chapter XXII

INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATIONS

IN FEBRUARY, 1951, the council noted with interest that a Cerebral Palsy conference had set up a Spastic Fellowship. Later in the year a grant of £25 was made for a Fellowship Conference to be held in Wellington early in 1952.

A suggestion by the Wanganui Branch that a home be provided there for crippled children to be boarded while receiving treatment was handled by the secretary, Mr. C. Meachen, when he visited the Branch. He was congratulated by the council later on for the satisfactory outcome of his visit.

Cerebral Palsy continued to demand much attention. In February in addition to supporting the Spastic Fellowship, it was decided to order the film "Children of Carlsen House," seen by the chairman (Mr. Hansard) when in London; a national survey of this disorder made by Miss McLeod to be distributed to Branches for comment; the Hastings Jaycees were commended for efforts to provide a Spastic Clinic there; the Rotorua sub-centre's co-operation with the Queen Elizabeth Hospital was supported. News that day schools for spastics would be opened soon in Auckland and Invercargill was received in August and in November a report of a District sub-committee recommended:—

- (1) No further distribution be made of money from the special Cerebral Palsy Fund.
- (2) Payment from that fund be made available for the immediate training of physio-therapists at Sydney and Melbourne.
- (3) Ministers of Health and Education to be offered financial assistance for equipment, furnishings and general treatment for pre-school cerebral palsied children.
- (4) Offers be made to the Government to arrange for specialists from Australia to visit Branches and address meetings of teachers, parents, children and the medical profession on the latest treatments, etc.
- (5) A survey be made by the Education Department of the present day schools for the cerebral palsied and their equipment with a view to the society making a grant for any special equipment deemed necessary.

- (6) An immediate grant of £1000 be made to the Minister of Education for distribution to the Auckland, Wellington, Christchurch and Dunedin Education Boards in appreciation of their having founded day schools and with a recommendation that the sums be devoted to providing additional special equipment in day schools as and when required.

At the annual meeting of the society a cheque for £1000 was presented to the Minister of Education.

The scope of the society's efforts continued to grow and with its extension there arose complexities that required judicious as well as sympathetic handling.

In March, for instance, a grant of £150 was made to the Wellington Branch towards the cost of a motor-car for an adult who had made good after being registered with the society for 16 years. In July a grant of £150 was made to the same Branch towards a loan of £300 it was making to a young man to enable him to establish a bookshop.

Branches were advised in April to seek the assistance of local Hospital Boards in obtaining occupational therapy equipment, such assistance having been arranged successfully at Wellington.

Visits to Branches during the year by special representatives of the council proved their value. One was made by Mrs. MacKay to the Hawke's Bay Branch, and the secretary, in addition to his visit to Wanganui, also visited the Northland sub-branch. The council recorded its appreciation of the results of both these visits.

Closer association with the International Society for the Welfare of Cripples was determined upon in May when it was decided that the Society should be represented at the international congress to be held at Stockholm in September. At the annual meeting in December it was decided to make an annual grant of £100 to the International Society.

By the courtesy of the Auckland Branch the council was able to advise other Branches (in June) of the diversional therapy carried out at Auckland among home-bound crippled children.

In July Branches advised the council that they did not desire a Dominion conference this year. A Field Officers' conference at Dunedin was approved, the secretary (Mr. C. Meachen) to be chairman and representative of the council.

In reply to a request by a Branch that the council lend £300 for the purchase of a car the Branch was informed that the council did not make such individual loans but if the Branch did so the council would subsidise the Branch.

Praise of the travelling orthopaedic clinics was repeated when the society's share of their costs was approved in June. In reviewing the year's work at the annual meeting in December praise was also accorded the Education Department's Correspondence School for its full co-operation with the society.

Several Branches had established annual collections of rags as a means of revenue. In July complaints were made by some Branches of the service given by the collecting firm and in July it was decided by the council to discuss these with the collectors' Wellington representative, Mr. Fearon. A month later the council was able to give details of a better arrangement made with Mr. Fearon. The council reminded Branches that each Branch is autonomous in regard to Rag Drives and that Auckland and Wellington Branches were staying outside the new arrangement. One of its principal features was that the price to be paid to Branches for rags was £18 per ton with an adjustment if the price given by the flock mills drops below £38 or rises above £56 per ton, the adjustment to be made by the council with the collecting firm.

The action of the Nelson Branch in purchasing a house for its surgical bootmaker was approved, but the Wanganui Branch was advised that the council has no scheme for lending money for the purchase of property.

In July the secretary (Mr. C. Meachen) was appointed the society's representative at the inter-State conference of the Australian Advisory Council for the Physically Handicapped. At the annual meeting Mr. Meachen was congratulated on his report of the conference. Important features of the report were that the Melbourne Children's Hospital offered to train for a year a teacher recommended by the society and who is interested in the education of the cerebral palsied. The Mosman Spastic Centre (Sydney) offered to train for a year physio-therapists interested in cerebral palsy cases.

In August the council learned that a branch of the society had been formed recently at the Cook Islands. The secretary was instructed to consult the Director-General of Health regarding the medical treatment of crippled children.

In October came another suggestion from overseas, namely, that the society promote a bursary for a student from India to receive training at the New Zealand School of Physiotherapy at Dunedin. The society's solicitors having advised that to do this was ultra vires the society's rules the Minister of Health was advised accordingly, but was assured also that if the Government made any recommendation for such a bursary under the Colombo Plan the society would do all it could to help.

Two Branches were advised in November that the society's definition of a crippled child does not permit the application of the society's funds to the relief of intellectually handicapped children.

It was decided in October to remind Branches of material regarding accident prevention that is available from the Department of Health.

Chapter XXIII

EXPANSION CONTINUES

EXPANSION OF THE work for crippled children was a matter before the national council early in 1952. The Canterbury Branch was asked in February if it was taking any action in the Chatham Islands. At the same meeting the council was notified that the Cook Islands could not legally form a branch of the society. It was determined that the Auckland Branch be asked to form a Cook Islands committee and that the Branch be thanked for the valuable work it has already done among Cook Island children. A ruling by the Minister of Health that Cook Island children are not entitled to Social Security benefits was referred in April to the Auckland Branch which promised to supply details of expenditure for Cook Islanders during the past three to five years.

It was also decided to invite the Australian Inter-State Advisory Council to hold its next conference at Wellington.

Once again the status of the council as the authority to speak for the society as a whole was affirmed, the Dunedin Branch being advised that any suggested submissions to the Intellectually Handicapped Children Commission must be approved by the Council, although any Branch member desiring to give evidence before the Commission could do so in his private capacity.

The purchase by the Auckland Branch of a property in Hamilton for a Crippled Children Centre was approved but not the establishment of its own Health Camp. Branches were advised to inquire in their own districts about suitable buildings for use as summer camps.

It was decided in March that the cost of transporting crippled children to and from Rotorua must be borne by Branches. They were also advised of the ruling by the Department of Health that surgical footwear for hospital out-patients could be a hospital benefit if being used in remedial treatment. If a patient's condition made it necessary for him to have such footwear permanently its cost must be borne by the patient or by the Branch interested in his case.

Commendation of the work done by the Southland Branch in connection with the day school for handicapped children was another feature of the March meeting.

A request by the Canterbury Branch for a grant to a doctor for study of pediatrics was not approved. The council held that such support was a matter for the Branch that would doubtless benefit from the doctor's studies.

The main discussion at the April meeting was on the recommendation made by the original Interim National Cerebral Palsy Committee. The recommendations included: (1) The offers of training of physio-therapists at Melbourne and Sydney be declined as it was considered that training in New Zealand would be a better long-term arrangement. The exchange of professional groups would, however, be welcomed. (2) The Rotorua clinic be a training institution. (3) An English expert (Mrs. E. Collis) be invited to visit New Zealand. (4) Special day schools to admit children from three years of age. (5) Vocational placement after treatment and tuition be considered by the council's executive.

Recommendations 1 and 2 were accepted, also 3 if approved by Branches. It can be added here that in September the Wellington Branch notified that a nursery day school for cerebral palsied children under five years of age had been established.

The secretary's report on his visit to the South Canterbury Branch and the proposals for its reorganisation were approved in July.

In the following month the Department of Education advised that the shortage of teachers made it impossible to train more speech therapists at present.

The 17th annual meeting and the bi-annual conference of Branches was held in October.

It was opened by the Minister of Health (Hon. J. R. Marshall) who expressed satisfaction over the close co-operation of the society with the Health and Education Departments. He congratulated the society on its activities and progress.

Sir Charles Norwood urged Branches to stimulate membership in order to maintain and increase public interest in the society's work.

Mr. (now Sir John) Ilott referred to the work accomplished in regard to Cerebral Palsy, especially the Rotorua unit, now recognised as a Diagnostic and Training Centre at which teachers and therapists could now receive training. He reminded Branches that whilst cerebral palsy was a major problem it represented only 821 cases out of the 6764 in Branch registers. It was necessary, therefore, to avoid over-emphasis of cerebral palsy as compared with other responsibilities of the society.

Among conference recommendations, subsequently confirmed by the council (14/10/1952) were the following: (1) There should be no change in the constitution of the national council. (2) Council authorised to invite Mrs. Collis to visit New Zealand. (3) Bequests not made to a specific Branch to be referred to a distribution committee. (4) A survey be made of employables after special training. (5) Close liaison with other organisations interested in child welfare.

(6) Efforts be made to have speech therapy in smaller centres equal to that given in the main centres. (7) Full co-operation with local Hospital and Education Boards. (8) A conference of Field Officers and secretaries be held. Subsequently (20/11/52) it was decided not to invite Mrs. Collis.

A feature of the conference was the account given by Mr. A. Cook, secretary of the Auckland Branch, on the work done there for the various age groups of children and young people by medical treatment, education, vocational training and guidance and so to ultimate rehabilitation. His report received warm commendation.

Branches were recommended to continue employing Messrs. W. A. Young and Co. as collectors in their rag drive.

Three personal matters affecting the council during the year were: In July Mr. (now Sir Alexander) Gillies was congratulated on having received at the hands of Her Majesty the Queen the Jewel of Office as first president of the New Zealand Orthopaedic Association. At the annual meeting Sir Alexander Roberts retired from the council for health reasons and tribute was paid to his interest and work in the founding of the society. In December Mr. F. W. Furby also retired from the council as he was leaving Wellington. He also was thanked for his willing help on all occasions.

Chapter XXIV

REHABILITATION PROBLEMS

THE FIRST EVENT of note in 1953 was a visit to New Zealand by Dr. Henry H. Kessler, former President and member of the Council of the International Society for the Welfare of Cripples, who is an international authority on the problems of rehabilitation. His visit was necessarily brief, but he met orthopaedic and other professional groups at Auckland and Wellington. He also met members of the Auckland and Wellington Branches, visited the Wilson Home and hospitals in Auckland and Wellington. His visit was considered as most valuable when it was discussed by the Council in February.

A further matter for congratulation at that meeting was that amended legislation made it possible for a Cook Island Branch of the society to be formed. In April, Mr. Romans, Chief Medical Officer, Rarotonga, attended a meeting of the Council and in June Mr. J. H. Saunders, an orthopaedic specialist of Wellington, and Mrs. J. V. Choate, assistant secretary to the Auckland Branch, conducted a travelling orthopaedic clinic at Rarotonga, the council having made a grant of £250 to enable the clinic to be held. The report of the clinic showed that 33 children were examined. Of these 21 suffered from club feet, eight from congenital deformities of fingers or toes, two from cleft palate, three from deformed limbs or were amputees, two of the latter were congenital. In July the Cook Island Branch's rules as amended and its application were formally approved, thanks being recorded for the help given to Cook Island children by the Auckland Branch over a number of years.

Going back to the council's general business for the period 1st July, 1953 to June 30th, 1954: A report was received in February from the Sheffield Rotary Club (England) regarding the winding up of a bequest it had administered on behalf of the council. (See Chapter XIX.)

At its request, the Society for the Welfare of Cripples, India, was supplied with particulars of the administration and operation of travelling orthopaedic clinics.

In April Branches were told of the School of Social Science

being conducted by Professor D. C. Marsh, at Victoria University, Wellington. The same month a further grant of £100 was received from the Maori Affairs Department for work among Maori children. A month later, however, the Department of Education notified that it could not increase the present grant of 5/- towards the cost of transporting cerebral palsied children to school.

A report submitted to the Canterbury and West Coast Branch by Dr. P. C. S. Unwin on his recent visit to the United States was circulated to Branches, as was a report by Mrs. M. E. Townsend, physiotherapist at Wilson Home, who also visited the United States.

In June a forward step in regard to cerebral palsy was initiated. It concerned the parent-child relationship in its influence on the education of cerebral palsied children. Council agreed that this could be improved by the visiting of the homes of such children by a trained therapist who would thus bring to many more children the benefits of research now being carried out. It was decided to offer the Department of Health a grant of £2000 from the special cerebral palsy fund towards the appointment of a visiting therapist for two years' trial. The offer was accepted. Miss D. Hartridge was appointed and the results of her visits more than justified the new departure.

Light was shown on the problem of obtaining special treatment when the South Canterbury Branch sought assistance towards the transport of children to the Rotorua clinic. The Branch was advised to approach the local hospital board.

In September it was found necessary to urge Branches to complete the survey of disabled persons requiring special training. After this was done it was found on analysis of the survey that there was not a case for seeking State Training Centres.

The value of visual training was being recognised increasingly, it was reported in October, when Branches were advised there are 19 films available for this purpose in the National Films Library, Wellington.

Homes for chronic cases was a problem considered during the year and Branches were asked to send details of their needs.

The year also witnessed an important conference at Auckland of secretaries and field officers. The chairman was the national secretary (Mr. C. Meachen), proceedings were opened by the chairman of council, Mr. G. K. Hansard, and delegates were welcomed by the chairman of the executive of the Auckland Branch, Mr. J. W. McGechnie. An important address was given by Dr. G. A. Lennane on "Rehabilitation of the Physically Handicapped" and 17 papers were contributed by delegates and discussed at the conference.

Close association with the International Society for the Welfare of Cripples was maintained during the year and the New Zealand grant to that society was raised to £150.

During the year Sir Alexander Roberts, at its request, rejoined the executive.

Comment was made at November meeting on the magnificent gift of £1,000,000 made to the State by the McKenzie Trust for general charitable purposes.

Personal matters of importance came before the council early in 1954. The first brought congratulations to one of its members, Sir John Ilott, who had received knighthood at the hands of Her Majesty the Queen during her visit to New Zealand. The second was the welcome back to the executive of Sir Alexander Roberts, who was elected its deputy-chairman during the absence overseas of the chairman, Mr. Hansard, and Sir John Ilott. A third matter was the presentation, on behalf of the International Society for the Welfare of Cripples of a certificate notifying the appointment of the council's secretary, Mr. C. Meachen, as national secretary for New Zealand of the International Society for the Welfare of Cripples.

Sir John Ilott was elected the society's delegate to the International World Congress to be held at The Hague in 1954. He declined a suggested grant by the council towards his expenses as delegate and was accorded a warm vote of thanks for his generosity.

A fourth matter of personal interest was the nomination of Mr. (now Sir) Alexander Gillies by the International Society for the Albert Larker Award. It was pointed out that with the president, Sir Charles Norwood, a member of the International Society, the chairman of the council, Mr. Hansard, chairman of the Finance Committee of the International Society and Messrs. Hansard and Jacobs (Dunedin), members of its Assembly, New Zealand's affiliation with the overseas organisation was strong.

Following a visit by the national secretary, Mr. Meachen, the North Otago Branch notified council that it had decided not to amalgamate with the Dunedin Branch. It was decided that Mr. Meachen should visit the Branch again.

The Canterbury Branch's purchase of a property for use as its headquarters was approved and satisfaction was expressed at the outcome of the work of the visiting physiotherapist, Miss Hartridge, in that area.

At March 31st, 1954, there were 7170 cases on Branch registers.

Thanks were again accorded the Correspondence School of the Education Department for its assistance and full co-operation.

Chapter XXV

ADMINISTRATION REVIEWED

A QUICKENING OF interest among Branches in the administration and scope of the work of the society was a feature of the 1954-55 year. It found expression at the 19th annual meeting and conference of Branches, held in February, 1955, when a recommendation was made that the council set up a special committee to deal with the definition of a crippled child and the general scope of the work of the society. The council accepted the recommendation and appointed a special committee. Its members were Sir Alexander Gillies, Messrs. G. K. Hansard, Eric Hodder, J. L. Sutton, W. R. Sellar, A. G. Cook, Dr. H. E. Field, and the secretary. The committee's report dealt with the following: Definition of a crippled child, adult cripples, chronic cases, vocational training, employment of cripples in industry, co-operation with other national organisations; the society's policy in respect to payments to State departments, national emblem, standard collection boxes, annual returns and annual accounts. The report was sent to all Branches for their consideration.

Two other matters of Dominion-wide import received much consideration during the year.

The first was in regard to chronic cases and their welfare when parents or guardians are no longer available to care for them. The Minister of Health assured the council that the matter was being carefully considered. Meanwhile some Branches reviewed their registrations of chronic cases.

Another important matter was the decision of the Government to permit disabled civilians to be trained in the Training Centres of the Disabled Servicemen's Re-establishment League. Branches were advised and requested to report the number of cases requiring special training. The State scheme was considered a way out of the difficulty of training crippled young people which had faced the society for many years. The Auckland Branch offered to take children from smaller branches in its sheltered workshop for training.

Success that had attended the work of the travelling physiotherapist among the cerebral palsied in the Canterbury-West Coast area prompted the conference of Branches to endorse a suggestion

that the council make a further grant of £1000 to the Minister of Health to enable the appointment of a second travelling physio-therapist in the Otago-Southland area. In accepting the grant the Minister pointed out that the chief difficulty in extending the work of the visiting physio-therapists was the lack of qualified candidates for such employment. During the year the fifth conference of adult spastics was held at Auckland. For this the council made a grant of £25 and the Auckland Branch assisted considerably. A Cerebral Palsy Parents' Association was formed at Wellington to affiliate with the Wellington Branch.

The Rotorua diagnostic and training centre for the cerebral palsied conducted by the division of physical medicine, Department of Health, under the directorship of Dr. G. A. Q. Lennane, continued its important work and the council recorded its appreciation of the department's co-operation and assistance.

Travelling orthopaedic clinics were continued successfully throughout the year, thanks to continued co-operation with the Department of Health, hospital boards, the medical profession, branches of the society and parents of the children concerned. Thanks were recorded to Dr. J. Cairney, Director-General, Department of Health, to Messrs. A. Renfrew White, H. Walden Fitzgerald, N. W. Nisbit, Dunedin; Leslie Will, Christchurch; Alexander Gillies, J. K. Cunninghame, J. Kennedy Elliott, Walter Robertson, J. H. Saunders, Wellington; Alan MacDonald, Morris Axford, Selwyn B. Morris, Auckland; William Parke, Gisborne; R. H. Dawson, Palmerston North; G. J. Taine, Napier; Coates Milson, Rotorua and Tauranga. The cost to the society of maintaining the clinics throughout the year was estimated to be £700 and their value had been proved beyond question.

A further grant of £1000 was made to the Cook Islands Branch during the year for assisting crippled children proceeding to New Zealand for medical treatment. Thanks were accorded the Auckland Branch for the help given to Cook Island children during their stay in Auckland.

The sixth World Congress, held at The Hague, attended by Sir John Ilott as the society's delegate, and Mr. Walden Fitzgerald as an observer, was an outstanding success. New Zealand, Sir John reported, was honoured by the election of Mr. Hansard as a vice-president and was thrilled to learn that Viscount Nuffield's distinguished accomplishments, particularly in the field of developing services for the physically disabled and for his international work in making such services available to the largest possible number of the world's disabled, was formally recognised at the International Congress where it was announced that his Lordship had been awarded a solid silver Statuette, together with a cheque for 1000 dollars—an Award given by the Albert Lasker Foundation for philanthropic achievements in the field of medicine, public health,

and other areas of human welfare. The Albert Lasker Award was established in 1942.

Other personal matters of interest during the year were the bestowal of the honour C.B.E. upon Mr. Leslie Will, Christchurch, and O.B.E. upon Mr. G. J. Park, Auckland. Miss Pauline Pole, Director of the Rotorua Diagnostic Centre, who resigned to be married, was granted £25 as a wedding gift by the council in recognition of her services at the centre. Appreciation was also received from the 14 Branches and areas visited by the secretary during the year.

Appreciation of the advantages received by crippled children who attended the Girl Guides' Camp led to a grant of £25 being made to the Girl Guides' Association.

During the year considerable use was made by Branches of the society's films and others made available by the Department of Health and the National Film Library and thanks were accorded to both for their co-operation.

Appreciation of the co-operation received from the Labour Department, Maori Affairs and Education Departments was recorded, with special emphasis on the assistance received from the Education Department's Correspondence School.

Chapter XXVI

CHRONIC CASES

UP TO THE TIME the 20th annual meeting and conference of Branches was held in November, 1955, administration of the society proceeded without any major question coming before the council in the 1955-56 period.

As a means of strengthening overseas affiliations it was decided to apply for the society to become an associate member of the Australian Cerebral Palsy Association.

Throughout the year the International Society for the Welfare of Cripples continued to supply the Society with literature of much service to the medical profession and public libraries. The International Society had shown kindness and courtesy to members of the New Zealand Society who visited the United States and appreciation of all the help received was expressed by the council and at the conference of Branches.

It was also decided that charges for the treatment at Auckland of Cook Island children should be referred to the Cook Island Branch and if a reduction in the charges was desired by the Branch it should bring the circumstances before the Resident Commissioner, Cook Islands, and the Department of Island Territories.

The Dunedin Branch was assured that every effort was being made to obtain a travelling physiotherapist for that area.

A suggestion by the Canterbury and West Coast Branch that where estates were left partly for charitable purposes they should be free so far from death duties was sent to the Government for favourable consideration. A proposal by the same Branch that a "pool" be made of invalid chairs was not supported. The Branch was also advised that stump socks for amputees were a charge against Branch funds and it might be possible to make special terms for a supply from the Auckland Branch's knitwear section.

Purchases of premises as branch headquarters at Gisborne (price £2500) and South Canterbury (price £3000) were approved. The South Canterbury premises were to be used also for holding classes for the handicapped.

A principal discussion at the annual conference was in regard to the care of chronic cases and the training and accommodation

while undergoing it of handicapped adolescents. The Minister of Health, Hon. J. R. Hanan, assured the conference that both problems were recognised by the Government, which desired to co-operate fully with the society's efforts to solve them.

Conference endorsed the council's approbation of the success of the travelling orthopaedic clinics under the control of the authorities and surgeons mentioned in the previous year's report. The council's grant of £1000 for this work was also approved. It was later decided that the clinics should in future be conducted by members of the New Zealand Orthopaedic Association.

Congratulations were extended during the year to the organisers of the Conference of Adult Spastics, held at Timaru, and thanks were extended to the South Canterbury Branch for assistance given to this conference. The council made a grant of £25 towards its expenses.

Appreciation of the admission of handicapped Girl Guides to the canvas camp held by the Girl Guides' Association was also recorded by the council, which in this case also made a grant of £25.

The question of educational facilities for crippled children likely to be long term inmates of hospitals was discussed with the Department of Education and a special investigation by the department would, it was hoped, lead to good results. It was recognised that the problem was many-sided and could not be solved in a hurry.

A further development in education services was the inauguration by the State Correspondence School of a Resident Teacher scheme. This had begun with the appointment of a resident teacher at Dunedin to supervise the activities of the Correspondence School in the South Canterbury, Otago and Southland area. Appreciation of this and of the continued assistance received from the Correspondence School was recorded.

As a sequel to discussions at the conference of Branches it was decided to make some alteration in the forms used for annual returns by Branches, and that the definition of a "crippled child" be as follows:—

"That for the purpose of the N.Z. Crippled Children Society, a crippled child is a young person under the age of twenty-one years, who as a consequence of bodily defects, congenital or acquired, which cause or tend to deformity or interference with normal functions of the bones, muscles or joints, is handicapped with respect to movement, the performance of work and/or social adjustment, and that the main scope of the Society's activities lies in the following fields:—

1. Orthopaedic disabilities.
2. Hare lip and cleft palate.
3. Heart diseases in marked degree.
4. Crippling neuro-muscular disorders.

Further, the N.Z. Crippled Children Society plays a complementary role to that of other organisations serving other handicapped groups such as the blind, the deaf, the

intellectually handicapped and those with pulmonary tuberculosis. In cases of dual defect Branches of the Society may assume partial responsibility jointly with another organisation.

It was decided that there should be no alteration of the formula on which the distribution of council income is made to Branches. It was also decided to "modernise" somewhat the administration of the society. In future the vice-presidents would be divided into two classes: (1) Four of those in active association with the work of the society, who could be also members of the national executive, to be elected by Branches at the annual or bi-annual conference; (2) honorary vice-presidents as hitherto, some representing the churches and other organisations as well as individuals who have shown interest in the society. With a president, four vice-presidents and an executive council all elected by conference it was felt that closer liaison between Branches and headquarters would be achieved and the society's progress stimulated. It was made plain, however, that the changes did not imply any criticism of administration in the past but a desire to ensure its flexibility in times of change.

Personal matters during the year included the retirement of Mr. Walter Robertson, orthopaedic surgeon at Wellington, who had shared in the conduct of travelling orthopaedic clinics. The appointment of the secretary, Mr. C. Meachen, as Chief Secretary of the Venerable Order of St. John in New Zealand brought him the appreciation of the council.

Miss Paulette Leaning, teacher of cerebral palsied children at Auckland during the past three years, was given permission by the Department of Education and the Auckland Branch to visit the U.S.A. and the United Kingdom to gain further experience in teaching the cerebral palsied. She was made a grant by the council and by the Auckland Branch. Miss Leaning, a cerebral palsy case, graduated B.A. in 1952. She took a post-graduate course at the Ardmore Teachers' Training College where she gained her Teaching Certificate.

Miss M. D. Hartridge, visiting physiotherapist in the Canterbury-West Coast area, was also granted leave of absence by the Department of Health and the Canterbury-West Coast Branch to study in the U.S.A. and the United Kingdom the latest methods for the physiotherapy treatment of the cerebral palsied. The council and the Branch made a grant to Miss Hartridge for this purpose.

An overseas visitor, Miss Norah Hill, was welcomed by the council and addressed a number of Branches on the work being carried out for crippled children in the United Kingdom.

Chapter XXVII

PUKEORA HOME

THE YEAR 1956-57 had an outstanding characteristic for during that period the Society "came of age." Special reference to this was made by Sir John Illott, a vice-president and deputy-chairman of the national executive, in moving the adoption of the annual report and balance sheet at the 21st annual general meeting of the society held on December 11th, 1956. Sir John briefly reviewed the establishment and the progress of the society since its formation. In 1937, he said, 1409 cases were registered. Today in the Branches of the society registrations had reached a total of 7283. Sir John emphasised the close co-operation with Ministers and State Departments, with medical, teaching, nursing and hospital authorities and with other social organisations which had made it possible for a lay organisation of mainly voluntary workers, as the society is, to accomplish so much for the benefit of crippled children. Being independent, he said, the society can keep a little ahead of the State in certain matters. It could investigate and try out new methods whilst taking advantage of all the State offered the community in the shape of free education and free medical treatment.

In the months previous to the annual meeting a most important event was the decision of the Government to establish a home for Physically Handicapped young people at Pukeora. This was a happy ending to the society's endeavours for six years to obtain a home for chronic cases of crippleddom requiring care when relatives or friends are no longer able to give it. Approval for the Pukeora Home was given by Cabinet in September, 1956, and the home was officially opened by the Minister of Health, Mr. J. R. Hanan, in May, 1957. The home is administered by the Waipawa Hospital Board and admissions are arranged through Hospital Boards. The society, as practical demonstration of its satisfaction that the home had been established, made a grant of £1000 for the provision of a station wagon for the use of the young people in the home.

In July, 1956, Dr. G. A. Q. Lennane was nominated as representative of the Society at the seventh world congress of the International Society for the Welfare of Cripples to be held in London in July, 1957. A grant of up to £200 towards its delegate's expenses was made.

In August that year the death of Dr. H. P. Pickerill was reorded with regret. He had done much work for the society in regard to cleft palate, hare lip and other plastic surgery.

It was decided in December to distribute among Branches a sum of £200 held in reserve for the treatment of Maori children. It was felt that as the treatment was a Branch responsibility it would be wisest to distribute the fund held in reserve.

In February, 1957, the council learned with regret that the publication of the "New Zealand Spastic" had ceased the previous month. Congratulations were sent to its editor, Mr. B. G. Battensby, for the useful service the "Spastic" had given to the cerebral palsied in New Zealand and overseas.

Another publication, "Bringing Up Crippled Children" (see Chapter XX) produced by the New Zealand Council for Educational Research in conjunction with the Society, continued to be in demand within the Dominion and overseas. During the year the Netherland Central Society was given permission by the Educational Research Council to translate and publish the book in the Dutch language.

The appointment of Miss Beryl Fisher as visiting physiotherapist in the Wellington and Palmerston North district drew an inquiry from the Dunedin Branch. The previous conference of Branches had urged a grant of £1000 be made for the appointment of a visiting physio-therapist in the Otago-Southland area. In spite of all efforts by the society and the Department of Health it was found impossible to obtain a qualified application for the Southern appointment. When Miss Fisher was available for the Wellington and Manawatu area the council considered it was wiser to apply the amount suggested by the conference in making her appointment.

The report made by Miss M. D. Hartridge, visiting physio-therapist in the Canterbury and West Coast area, on her return from a visit to Australia, the United States and Great Britain, was considered an outstanding one. She was congratulated by the council and copies of her report were sent to all the society's Branches.

Approval was given in February to the purchase by the Southland Branch of a rest home at Queenstown. Its cost would be £3675 and a special drive would be made to provide the fund required.

The question of increasing the allowable income of handicapped young people receiving Social Security benefits and also receiving wages for work done in the sheltered workshop of the Auckland Branch was raised by a deputation to the Minister of Social Security. The deputation included members of the council and Mr. A. G. Cook, secretary to the Auckland Branch, who gave details of earnings in the sheltered workshop. The Minister promised consideration.

In June Lady Norwood, wife of the society's president, passed away. Although she did not hold any office Lady Norwood's interest and work for the society was known and appreciated. Another loss

during the year was caused by the death of Mr. Keith Cunninghame, an orthopaedic specialist who gave much service in conducting "travelling Clinics" in the Marlborough, Wellington and Taranaki areas.

Chapter XXVIII

DEVELOPMENT PROPOSALS

PROOF OF THE society's interest and influence in overseas efforts for the benefit of crippled children was given very early in the 1957-58 year's conduct of the society. In August, 1957, the council decided to co-operate in arrangements being made for a Pan-Pacific Conference to be held at Sydney. Later in the year Dr. Lennane reported on proceedings at the World Congress, referred to in the previous chapter. His report said, *inter alia*, that it was reassuring to find that New Zealand ideas and practices were well in the forefront as compared with older and wealthier nations. Further confirmation of the executive's belief in the advantage to be gained by association with overseas efforts was shown when Branches approved a grant of £275 out of the Special Cerebral Palsy fund to the Auckland Branch towards the cost of printing a booklet written by Miss Paulette Leaning, giving her observations while overseas.

Tributes were paid at the conference to the assistance accorded by the International Society for the Welfare of Cripples. It sent much literature for distribution throughout New Zealand and some of the films from the International film library had been acquired for the society's library. Much assistance had been given also by the International Society by advice and assistance to members and supporters of the society when visiting the United States. It was recorded with regret that the American journal "The Crippled Child" was to cease publication, but the United States National Society for the Care of Crippled Children and Adults had promised to supply a series of "Parents" pamphlets.

At the conference of Branches in October there was evident a fear that the society was becoming too complacent over the success it had obtained and needed a shake up throughout its constitution. To ascertain whether the fear was justified and to improve where necessary the work of Branches' Conference resolved to convene an early meeting of interested Branches to survey (a) the services already offered to crippled children, (b) the need for additional services with the object of co-ordinating the development of crippled children work in Branch districts.

It was resolved that (1) the Auckland and Canterbury Branches

co-operate with the National Council in preparing a suitable questionnaire for completion prior to the meeting referred to in the previous resolution. (2) The questionnaire be returned by all Branches by 31st March, 1958, and the meeting be held as soon as possible thereafter. (3) After the questionnaire has been considered there should be a meeting of seven representatives from the Branches in Auckland, Canterbury and West Coast, Dunedin, Hawke's Bay, Manawatu, Southland and Wellington. The council adopted the resolution (12/11/59) and appointed Professor Field (Canterbury) and Mr. A. G. Cook (Auckland) to prepare the suggested questionnaire.

Miss June Opie, guest speaker at the conference, endorsed in her address a conclusion already reached in most districts, namely, that the greatest problem is the rehabilitation of the crippled child after treatment and he has become adolescent.

Tribute was paid at the conference to the continued and valuable services given to children in rural and provincial areas. Branches endorsed the council's recommendation that a grant of £500 be made for two years to the New Zealand Medical Research Council. The recommendation arose from a request by the New Zealand Orthopaedic Association for assistance in active research undertaken by Professor Nisbet.

A further recommendation made by the conference was as follows: That after provision has been made for the administration of the New Zealand Society all future unconditional bequests to the New Zealand Society be directed to a National Development Fund and that this Fund be available primarily to assist Branches with development work. In approving (12/11/57) the recommendation as from November 1st, 1957, the Council's discussion made it clear that future commitments ex the National Development Fund would require approval by Branches before any commitment could be made.

Arising from discussions at the conference the Council set up a sub-committee (Messrs. H. E. Young, W. B. Hunt and C. Meachen) to consider if the system of allocation to Branches of Art Union funds should be amended. It accepted the sub-committee's report that no amendment was desirable.

Registration figures at Branches showed much variation and the secretary was instructed to discuss this with Branches when they were visited by him. This discussion by the council drew a protest from the Nelson Branch but it was assured that no reflection on any Branch was intended, council simply desired to obtain similarity of classification and registration throughout the Dominion.

The council noted with approval that during the year the Canterbury and West Coast Branch had set up an active sub-committee to aid in the prevention of crippling accidents. The sub-committee included a representative of the Plunket Society, a Child Specialist, a solicitor and a business executive. Co-opted members

were the local manager of the National Film Unit, a Plastic Surgeon and a member of the Health Education Committee.

In November the council approved the purchase by the Auckland Branch of additional premises, No. 7 Mount Street, for £6000, a further demonstration of the Branch's ever-growing strength and forward looking policy.

In reply to inquiries the Council decided that assistance could be given by Branches towards repairs and upkeep of hearing aids for crippled children.

The position of the Cook Islands Branch was again reviewed during the year and representations were made to the Minister of Island Territories urging free transport of crippled children from the Islands to New Zealand for treatment and the payment of hospital charges for long-stay patients in New Zealand hospitals. Tribute was again paid to the generosity of the Auckland Branch towards Islands children. Because Cook Islanders do not pay the Social Security tax they are not entitled to free hospital care in New Zealand. This entails heavy cost to be borne by the Cook Islands Branch. In 1954 the council made a grant of £1000 to the Branch and it now recommended to all Dominion Branches that a further grant of £500 be made from the National Development Fund.

A stalwart who passed away during the year was Miss E. S. Hackworth, secretary of the Southland Branch, who had been associated with the work of that Branch since its establishment with outstanding success.

The chairman of the National Council, Mr. G. K. Hansard, and the secretary to the Auckland Branch, Mr. A. G. Cook, were appointed New Zealand speakers at the forthcoming Pan-Pacific Rehabilitation Conference to be held at Sydney.

In May, 1958, the council accepted with regret the resignation of Mr. G. J. Park, O.B.E., Auckland, whose outstanding work for that Branch had borne such excellent results.

One effect of the decision to set up the National Development Fund came into evidence early in 1958. The Hawke's Bay Branch requested that a legacy of £200 which, it contended, the testator had intended to be for the Branch's benefit but which had been bequeathed to the New Zealand Crippled Children Society, should be paid to the Hawke's Bay Branch. The council, after inquiry, found that it had no power to make such a payment after the setting up of the National Development Fund by the conference of Branches.

The Minister of Social Security advised that no increase in the allowable earnings of handicapped persons receiving Social Security benefits could be granted at present. The decision had been long awaited. There had been indeed a complaint from the Auckland Branch that the national executive had been dilatory in pressing the matter upon the Minister's attention. It was a disappointing decision, although there seemed to be reason for hope that it was not final.

Chapter XXIX

PROGRESS AND PROBLEMS

EARLY IN THE 1958-59 year the secretary, Mr. C. Meachen, was given four months' leave of absence to attend a St. John Priory Council meeting in London, on behalf of the Venerable Order of St. John. It was agreed that he might make certain investigations on behalf of the Council in the United Kingdom and the United States and expenses incurred in such inquiries would be borne by the New Zealand Society.

In October the death of Mr. Vivian Jacobs, M.B.E., president of the Dunedin Branch, was reported. One of the founders of the New Zealand Society and a forthright worker for its welfare in his own district and elsewhere, his passing was a distinct loss to the society.

In the same month approval was given by the Council to the erection of buildings (in Cameron Street) by the Wanganui Branch at a cost of £3824. In addition to becoming the Branch headquarters it was hoped to utilise the building for other phases of the work. Further proof of the extension of the society's work was found when the Canterbury and West Coast Branch was authorised to erect a sheltered workshop at a cost of £7000. The Hawke's Bay Branch suggested that the society's aid should be offered to Fiji, where a severe outbreak of poliomyelitis had occurred. Council could only inform the Branch that the constitution prevented the use of the society's funds outside New Zealand. Members of the society could, of course, contribute to any effort to relieve distress in Fiji, but council considered any public appeal should be made under the direction of the Red Cross authorities.

Lest there should be any misunderstanding about its attitude, the New Zealand Orthopaedic Association assured Council of its approval of the grant of £500 for two years made by the society to the New Zealand Medical Research Council for orthopaedic research.

Branches having supported the proposal to print Miss Leaning's booklet "The Challenge of Cerebral Palsy," a grant of £275 was made to the Auckland Branch towards the cost of 1000 copies. A further indication of interest in this phase of the society's work

was shown by a grant of £30 towards the cost of printing and distributing the "Cerebral Palsy News" produced by a voluntary cerebral palsied staff.

For private reasons Mr. A. G. Cook, Auckland, was unable to attend the Pan-Pacific Rehabilitation Conference at Sydney, to which he had been appointed one of the two speakers representing the New Zealand Society. Dr. Ludbrook had consented to take Mr. Cook's place and read the paper Mr. Cook had prepared for the conference. This arrangement was approved by Council.

The Pan-Pacific Conference was the joint work of the Australian and New Zealand Societies, and was attended by over 20 representatives of the New Zealand Society and its Branches. The official representatives of the New Zealand Society were Mr. G. K. Hansard and Sir John Illott. The Conference was the most important event of its kind held in the Pacific and was attended by nearly one thousand representatives of over 20 countries. It was New Zealand's privilege to propose the vote of thanks to Field-Marshal Sir William Slim, Governor-General of Australia, who addressed the Conference, and this was undertaken by Sir John Illott.

Interest in overseas efforts for cripples was further enhanced by a brief visit to the Dominion by Mr. Don Wilson, Secretary-General of the International Society for the Welfare of Cripples. He saw members of the Council and gave them some of the impressions he had formed regarding the work of the New Zealand Society so far as he had seen it. It was decided to ask Mr. Wilson, after his visit had concluded, to supply a brief report of his findings.

Dr. David Brown, London, accepted the position as representative of the New Zealand Society on the Central Council for the Care of Cripples, London.

The New Zealand Society is not alone in its interest in the work for cripples being carried out overseas. As a matter of fact the International Society for the Welfare of Cripples (now the International Society for Rehabilitation of the Disabled) has grown so widely of recent years that there are now membership organisations in 49 countries.

A grant of £200 from the special Cerebral Palsy Fund was made, for the Pukeora Home, to the Waipawa Hospital Board for the erection of a glass house to be used by inmates of the Home for occupational therapy. The good work performed at the Home by the occupational officer, Mr. W. Blackwood, was recognised by Council in the remission of the unpaid portion of a loan made to him.

A further grant of £500 to the Cook Islands Branch was made in February, 1959, with the approval of other Branches.

The peculiar conditions that applied to the Cook Island Branch were again emphasised when it pointed out that because of shortage of beds in the Auckland hospitals three Cook Island children had been sent to the New Plymouth Hospital. The Cook Island Branch urged that in such conditions at Auckland cases should be sent to

other metropolitan hospitals, i.e. in districts where, possibly, there were numbers of Cook Islanders residing. The children not needing continuing hospitalisation might be lodged with their country folk and thus reduce hospital costs. Council agreed generally with this suggestion and an approach to the Wellington hospital authorities was approved. Later the Wellington hospital offered full co-operation on the lines suggested. Three Cook Island children were admitted there in October.

On the strength of a report from Dr. B. S. Rose, director of the Cerebral Palsy Unit of the Queen Elizabeth Hospital, Rotorua, Council was enabled to advise Branches that there were much improved chances for early admission of children to the unit.

In keeping with its desire to "help those who help themselves" Council approved a grant of £120 to J. Battensby for the purchase of tools and equipment to aid him in his self-supporting efforts. His application had the endorsement of the Wellington Branch.

At the other extreme of the council's activities Sir John Hlott was appointed the society's representative at a meeting of the Council of the International Society for the Welfare of Cripples at Vienna. Branches were also advised that if any member could visit the Mediterranean Conference on Rehabilitation he could obtain from the New Zealand Council the status of representative of the society.

Miss D. Hills was appointed a Visiting Cerebral Palsy Therapist in May and it was agreed to appoint Miss Kitching to the Palmerston North and Wanganui area in the next month. This led subsequently to a protest from the Dunedin Branch which considered the promise of the appointment of a visiting therapist for that area had been overlooked. Dunedin was assured that this was not so and that as soon as a qualified candidate was available an appointment would be made.

A report for submission to a State committee set up to inquire regarding Infant and pre-School Health Services was approved by Council. It was prepared by Mr. H. E. Young, Mrs. Souper, secretary, Wellington Branch, and Dr. Lennane.

An administrative matter of importance, the superannuation of the Society's officers, was referred to a sub-committee (Messrs. W. N. Norwood and L. Sinclair Thompson) as regards the national secretary. Officers employed by Branches are of course the responsibility of the employing Branch.

A grant of £100 was made to Miss Gane, senior speech therapist of the Christchurch Speech Clinic, towards the cost of a visit to London where she would represent New Zealand at the International Congress of Logopaedics and Phoniatics.

Chapter XXX

REGIONAL CONFERENCES SET UP

THE TWENTY-FIFTH year of the society began unspectacularly. In August Sir John Ilott was appointed the Society's representative on the Assembly of the International Society for the Welfare of Cripples vice the late Mr. Vivian Jacobs.

A proposal by the Southland Branch in November to purchase a property for £8250 was approved. The Branch reported that finance for the purchase was available thanks largely to a generous gift by Mr. J. D. Gilmore, a Past President of Rotary in Invercargill, one of the founders of the Southland Branch and one of its most stalwart supporters. Council decided to send Mr. Gilmore a letter of appreciation for the splendid support he had given the Society in Southland and its hope that he would soon be restored to health, a hope that unfortunately was not fulfilled.

The Southland Branch also submitted a report on "Swimming for Cripples." Council considered it so valuable as to warrant distribution to all other Branches.

A grant of £30 towards the cost of issuing a pamphlet by the Boy Scouts' Association was made as the pamphlet was to raise funds for the assistance of handicapped boys. Another grant indicated the Society's resolve that expense should not deter any crippled child from receiving specialised treatment wherever possible. The grant was one-third of the cost of the air fare (£726) of a mother and child whom the Manawatu Branch was sending to the United Kingdom for the child's treatment for scoliosis—treatment that is not available in New Zealand.

December saw the retirement from the council of Sir Alexander Roberts, Mr. L. G. K. Steven and Mr. F. R. Jones. Sir Alexander was a foundation member of the society and of its council. He, like Mr. Steven and Mr. Jones, had given many years of service and their retirements were much regretted. They followed a conference of Branches at which many methods of increasing efficiency and bringing the Branches in closer association with the national council were discussed. One of them, that a full-time secretary at headquarters was desirable was passed by a majority of delegates and subsequently accepted by the council. It led to the resignation

of the part-time secretary, Mr. C. Meachen, after 23 years' service, who did not wish to apply for the full-time appointment. Mr. Meachen had rendered good service, it was stated at the conference, and the suggestion that a full-time secretary be appointed was not intended as adverse reflection on Mr. Meachen's work. In February, 1960, Mr. Pierce Carroll (then chief secretary to the Minister of Education), was appointed secretary.

A suggestion for further reorganisation of the council's functions was much discussed at the conference. Ultimately it was referred to the council for consideration and, after much inquiry, Council considered no change was necessary.

Another recommendation by the conference, namely, that regional conferences of Branches be held, two in the North Island and one in the South Island, was accepted by the Council with certain regrouping of the Branches that would attend regional conferences at Hamilton and Palmerston North respectively. Both those conferences and a third at Timaru were considered highly satisfactory.

Conference's suggestion that there should be specific Maori representation on the National Council and on Branch committees was endorsed by Council and the Minister of Maori Affairs was asked to nominate a Maori representative on the National executive. This request was granted by the Minister and Mr. W. Herewini, controller of the Maori Welfare Division appointed to represent the Department, with Mr. N. P. K. Puriri as his deputy.

Misunderstanding that arose over an invitation to Dr. M. A. Perlstein, an American specialist in the treatment of cerebral palsy, was cleared up and Branches were recommended that a grant of £250 be made (from the National Development Fund) to the N.Z. Pediatric Society which undertook responsibility for Dr. Perlstein's visit. The Auckland Branch was asked to appoint a representative to the committee dealing with the visit.

In April the Auckland Branch advised that its former secretary, Mr. A. G. Cook, had been appointed Director and Mr. R. D. McVicker secretary of the Branch, Mr. Cook having found his private business prevented him from continuing the secretarial duties he had conducted with marked success.

The Cook Island Branch reported receipt of accounts totalling £5600 for treatment of children at New Plymouth hospital. It was understood the Taranaki Hospital Board was willing to write off the debt if the Department of Health would permit this. Council decided to take the matter further with the Departments concerned.

The Cook Islands Branch drew attention to the difficulty it had had in obtaining parents' consent to anaesthetics being given to Cook Island children receiving treatment in New Zealand hospitals. The Branch was advised (12/4/60) that the law demanded that such authority must be brought by a patient or be obtained before he leaves the islands.

Council approved a suggestion that the New Zealand designed "Distaff Appliance" be displayed at the Eighth World Congress of the International Society for the Welfare of Cripples. The Disabled Servicemen's Rehabilitation League to provide the appliance, the society to bear cost of its freight and Dr. H. A. Rusk, New York, to find a demonstrator. It was also agreed that if Mr. H. Walden Fitzgerald, of Dunedin was to read a paper at the Conference he should be appointed the society's representative there and should be paid expenses while in New York for that purpose. Later he was appointed official deputy for Mr. Hansard at Assembly meetings of the International Society.

The Hawke's Bay Branch was appointed the society's liaison with the local hospital board for the Pukeora Home and given authority to spend up to £10 there on behalf of the society.

The Wairarapa Branch was advised that the Child Welfare Division did not think fresh legislation was desirable in regard to a crippled child returning to an indifferent home after hospital treatment.

It was decided not to make a grant to the Palmerston North Medical Research Foundation, but the Manawatu Branch was advised subsequently that it could do so from Branch funds if it so desired.

The Wanganui Branch having shown that it was out of pocket over the annual display of work by crippled children, it was decided to raise the grant of £35 already made by £15. The Branch's figures showed that over the years exhibitions had cost £631 with receipts only £240.

In June the Council discussed proposals for the disbursement of a grant of £200 received some time ago from the Maori Affairs Department for the benefit of Maori crippled children. The following month it was decided to pay the grant to the Auckland Branch unconditionally. The Branch had suggested it might be applied in part payment of Miss Williams as Maori Field Officer in the Waikato district.

An application from Miss W. J. Johnstone, Napier, for a grant to assist her in obtaining overseas training was declined as there was no assurance that her services on return would be available outside the Hawke's Bay district.

The Fiji Crippled Children Society sought affiliation and financial help, but Council could only advise that the society's rules prevented it from granting either request. Council would, however, be glad to give advice and guidance if desired. It suggested the Fiji society should apply direct to the International Society for the Welfare of Cripples for membership.

In June it was decided that donations of less than £10 received at headquarters with no specific instructions as to disposal be passed on to the Wellington Branch.

The same month assurance was received from the New Zealand

Medical Research Council that it will subsidise £ for £ the society's grant of £500 for orthopaedic research.

The question of Field Officers training courses was referred to the Regional Conferences, and Branches were advised to follow a suggestion made at the national conference, namely, to appoint an official Medical representative to their committees as liaison between the medical profession and the society.

Other conference suggestions approved included (a) a request to the University of New Zealand to give extra time to crippled children sitting examinations and advise schools that the time allowance exists; (b) concentration of young people needing employment or special vocational training in Auckland, Wellington and Canterbury, subject to Canterbury's agreement; (c) Council to continue to urge an increase in the allowable income earned by cripples working in sheltered workshops; (d) Branches to be recommended to integrate crippled children with normal children's social activities, and to aid in the prevention of crippling accidents.

On June 14th Council affirmed that grants for research would be determined by it with emphasis that research be in the direction of (a) apparatus for disabled children; (b) prevention as well as cure; (c) use of templates and photos of new equipment; (d) with due regard to other demands of the society. It was pointed out that the substance of this decision had been kept in mind in two recent applications for grants.

Branches were urged to encourage and support Guides and Scouts in their assistance to handicapped children. Branches were reminded that the council had already contributed towards printing a pamphlet on scouting for the handicapped boy.

The South Taranaki Branch was advised that bequests cannot be sent to the Branch in the area in which a testator resided because the 1957 Annual Conference set up the National Development Fund. Legal opinion confirmed this decision.

It was decided not to hold a national conference in 1960 as ten Branches did not desire one.

Chapter XXXI

SOCIETY'S "SILVER JUBILEE"

IN THE YEAR 1959-1960 the New Zealand Society, and many of its branches, completed 25 years of service to crippled children and thus attained the "silver jubilee" of its and their foundation. The contrast between the status, scope and resources of the society when it was founded in the year 1935 and its standing in the community today is demonstrated to some extent in the statistics that accompany its annual report for the 1958-59 year. When the society achieved its "majority" four years earlier, the deputy-chairman of the National executive council of the society, Sir John Ilott, made reference to the development of its work and resources. He was also able to refer to the standing the society's work had enabled it to achieve with the general public. Generous support had been forthcoming, Sir John said, because the value of the society's work was recognised by the public generally, by Ministers of the Crown and State Departments, and, above all, by the parents of handicapped children and by those children when they reached adolescence and adulthood. The last named are of course not only the best advocates for the society's continuance and growth, they are also the complete justification for its existence.

The mere statistics are heart-warming to all who believe the welfare of handicapped children is the duty of every civilised community and especially that of a nation like New Zealand which prides itself on being one of the foremost "welfare" States in the British Commonwealth.

Thanks to Viscount Nuffield's munificence, the New Zealand Society, within a month of its formation, had the substantial amount of £50,000 with which to organise its operations and development. His Lordship's later benevolence has been referred to earlier, his gifts to the society reaching the magnificent total of £67,500. The balance sheet for the current year (1959-60) shows that the society's assets were £148,839 at the end of the year and that each of its Branches, save the more recently formed Cook Islands Branch, also possesses substantial funds and some of them valuable properties. When the society's first year of operation ended there were 1409 children receiving advice and treatment at its various Branches.

Today the figure is nearly 7000 and as medical research in its various branches proceeds it is certain that the demands upon the society's efforts will also increase.

Already that research has removed largely the dread of epidemics of poliomyelitis, the "infantile paralysis" that was almost the bogey feared by members of the society 25 years ago. There is an ever-increasing willingness to supply funds for research within and outside the Dominion. Moreover, there is full recognition throughout New Zealand that research knows no political or national boundaries. Provided it can be of service to the crippled children of the Dominion there is no hesitancy on the part of the society in giving financial assistance to those qualified to assist in its work to go overseas and learn what is being done there. Nor has there been any hesitancy in bearing the cost of visits to New Zealand by experts from other countries. Much is being written and said about international co-operation. In work for the prevention, cure or alleviation of crippledom the co-operation is already widespread and is ever expanding.

The New Zealand Society has borne its share in this co-operation. Since 1951 it has been represented at every International Congress—by Mr. Hansard in 1951, as mentioned he was appointed to the Finance Committee at that time; Sir John Ilott represented the Society at The Hague in 1954—and Mr. H. Walden Fitzgerald attended as an observer—when New Zealand was honoured by the election of Mr. Hansard as one of the three International Vice-Presidents. Mr. E. H. Hodder represented the New Zealand Society at the London Conference in 1957, and Sir John Ilott represented the New Zealand Society at the Council Meeting in Vienna in 1958 and also at the Council Meeting at Heidelberg in 1961.

It goes without saying, however, that in the main the work and maintenance of the society has been a New Zealand undertaking. Most of its work has been carried out voluntarily by men and women who have many other calls upon their time and resources. Among the few paid officials enthusiasm for their work and sympathy with afflicted children are characteristic. They do not worry about long hours of work or trying journeys. Their work is well done and to see a handicapped child become a useful member of society when he becomes adult is a glorious reward for many hours of effort made by servants of the society.

Of the volunteers in the great work little has been said of their personal interest in the society after its establishment. It is gratifying to note that at Dominion headquarters and in many of the Branches men and women who helped to found the society are still able and willing to aid its progress. In the national council Sir Charlie Norwood, Sir Alexander Gillies and Sir John Ilott, who were prime movers in the foundation of the society, are still giving it active support. In Auckland the name of G. J. Park will be honoured so long as the society continues to exist. He joined the National

Council when he transferred his home to Wellington. In Wellington Sir Alexander Gillies, Mrs. Souper and Mr. H. E. Young are still in active service. In Christchurch the work of Leslie Will and L. G. K. Steven will always be remembered, as will that of Mr. H. T. Speight at Dunedin. In the smaller Branches the names of Mr. J. L. Sutton in Southland, Mrs. Hudson in Nelson, Mr. W. F. Kent-Johnson in Hawke's Bay, Mr. E. M. Hodder in Wairarapa, Dr. Christie and Mr. E. Lind at Wanganui, Mr. R. H. Leece at Hawera, Mr. F. E. Clarke at Stratford, Mr. P. E. Stainton and Mr. H. E. Carey at New Plymouth, all deserve mention as foundation members of the various Branches and for continuous service ever since. There are many others qualified for inclusion in the list—as reference to Branch histories will show. They have all found their reward in the work itself and the manner in which it has been appreciated and upheld in the communities where it has been known at first hand and judged accordingly.

In the preceding chapter reference is made to certain administrative changes that have been made or are under consideration. They have one object in view, namely, to improve and advance the society's work and usefulness. As the years pass other changes will doubtless be necessary. For the founders of the society preferred, very wisely, to regard it as a living organism rather than as an unchanging structure. An organism must either grow or perish, and the society's record is one of amazing growth. The wisdom of those who drafted its constitution, who nurtured it through its early years and some of whom can consider proposed changes with the experience of many years of service to the society, has been demonstrated in this history. They have their reward in the society's progress and well-being and in the certainty that the scope and functions they envisaged for its activities have brought the desired results—namely—relief when a cure is impossible and, above all, opening the way for those who are permanently handicapped towards a full share in useful citizenship.

The success achieved and the enthusiasm that obtains throughout the society and its Branches give full assurance for the years to come.

The Branch Histories contained in the next chapter have been compiled by Branch Executives whose assistance in this direction is much appreciated.

The Branch records are shown in alphabetical order, with the four Metropolitan Branches first.

Chapter XXXII

BRANCH HISTORIES

AUCKLAND

THE AUCKLAND BRANCH OF the New Zealand Crippled Children Society (Inc.), like the Branches in other parts of the Dominion, was promoted by the local Rotary Club.

The annual convention of Rotary Clubs of New Zealand, held at Timaru in 1933, adopted the suggestion of District Governors, T. C. List and Sir John Ilott, that a New Zealand Crippled Children Society should be promoted. At conventions of Rotary International, they had been impressed by the wide support given to the movement in the U.S.A., where its original promoter, Edgar F. ("Daddy") Allen, after losing his son in a tramway accident, gave up his successful business and devoted himself to a project to establish, in Elyria, the "Gates' Hospital for Crippled Children" in 1915. Rotary Clubs helped him to widen the scope of his activities to the whole of the U.S.A. and to other countries.

The Auckland Rotary Club, following the visit to the club of the District Governor (the late T. C. List), readily accepted responsibility for the formation of an Auckland Branch of the New Zealand Society. In February, 1934, it appointed a Crippled Children committee, naming as Chairman Mr. G. J. Park, then Principal of Seddon Memorial Technical College. The members of this committee proceeded to compile a roll of cripples in the urban area and after visits, to submit reports. It soon became obvious that there was a gap to be filled and although some members were hesitant about forming still another social organisation, the Rotary Committee went ahead with preparations for a public meeting. This was held in the Auckland Town Hall on April 16th, 1935, and was attended by about 100 interested citizens, the Mayor, Rotarian George Hutchison, presiding. At this meeting, a draft constitution and set of rules, submitted by the New Zealand Society, was adopted and interim officers elected, to hold office until a general meeting of subscribing members could be held.

The officers for the interim period included Mr. (later Sir) Ernest Davis, Chairman, Mr. G. Lawrence Taylor, Hon. Secretary-Treasurer, Mr. G. J. Park. The Executive numbered 15, of which

Mr. J. W. McGechie alone has continued his active participation to the present time, being President and Chairman of Executive 1948-1958. He is now (1960) Patron of the Branch.

The district allocated to the Auckland Branch by the New Zealand Society was the area known as the Auckland Province, with population then of 609,000. In this larger area, it was felt, would be found both the number of crippled children necessary to support the necessary welfare services and the financial resources required. A membership fee of £1 per annum was adopted so that eventual control would be exercised by people really interested in the work. In both of these matters, Auckland differed from other parts of the Dominion.

The first report of the Interim Executive Committee to members of the Branch was dated May, 1936; it went to local bodies, to sports bodies and to financial members—a total of 1500 copies. It recorded that Mr. and Mrs. W. R. Wilson had offered their very valuable home at Takapuna with 13 acres of grounds for use as a convalescent home for cripples; that in addition, the Wilson family had subscribed a fund of £10,200 as an endowment for maintenance of buildings and grounds. Lord Nuffield made a donation of £10,000 to be used for the support of the Wilson Home and such other similar type homes which might later be established in other districts.

At that first meeting of financial members, 72 in number, Mr. Ernest Davis (then Mayor) remained President, Mr. G. Lawrence Taylor, Chairman, Mr. G. J. Park, Hon. Secretary-Treasurer, and two new members, the Rev. J. J. Kelly and Mr. W. Calder Mackay, were elected and were to remain until this date, the last-named being elected President at the annual meeting in September, 1958, an office he continues to hold.

In the initial stages of the development of the Auckland Branch, a real attempt to make the whole province do its part was made. All the local bodies were asked to form auxiliary committees with the Town Clerk or County Clerk as Hon. Secretary, and to locate the crippled children in their area in which it was hoped, councillors, engineers and others would help. The Hon. Secretary-Treasurer travelled to all parts of the province in his vacations and undoubtedly made the work to be done widely known and laid the foundation for the formation at a later period of the sub-centres possible when liaison could be made through the appointment of full-time supervisors; the first in 1943.

In its early years, the Auckland Branch had substantial support from the Seddon Memorial Technical College Board of Managers, its large staff, and numerous students. Its offices, with necessary equipment and board room, were made available at almost no cost (25/- per week for clerical services), while money donations from the College were continuous—£200 in the first year, with £90, £95, £93, £160, £147 in following years to 1943 when substantially increased revenues from other sources were accruing. These financial

contributions were very largely inspired by the late W. E. Burley, Head of the College, and in recognition he was elected Chairman of the Executive Committee of the Branch from 1942 to 1948. Moreover, crippled children were admitted to classes without charge, where their previous education fitted them for post primary work. The 1946 report of the Branch estimated the value of the College help over the ten years as worth about £5000. In that year, the office moved to Airways House, Customs Street, and after a brief period there, transferred to its own property at No. 9 Mount Street.

In these early years, the policy of the Branch was designed so that the ultimate objective of a crippled children society, viz, training to the stage where children will be self-supporting and not permanent invalidity pensioners, could be reached. It was recognised that intimate personal contacts over the whole area would be provided through paid full-time supervisors with transport, but that this was but the beginning. Hospitals and a convalescent home specially reserved for cripples (the Wilson Home) were already provided and supported by Government boards. However, vocational training would have to be specialised, Technical Schools would not cover the ground; cripples would have to be trained for vocations suited to their handicaps and not provided for ordinary young people with whom cripples could not compete. The large district was wanted to ensure the numbers available for one class of work would be enough to justify the cost of equipment, staff, etc.

The Branch was justified in believing that it would eventually be able to make the necessary provision and that it could also provide hostel accommodation so that pupils from the whole province and perhaps even further afield could be assembled at one training centre in Auckland.

The late Mr. Harry Sproston Dudley had directed in his will that the residuary trust funds should be used to provide a home for crippled children. It was known from the beginning that the amount available would exceed £100,000. The later gift by Mr. and Mrs. Wilson made it advisable to vary the purposes to which Dudley Trust funds might be used and this was done by the Supreme Court in 1956 in such a way that the Trustees may use the money for the vocational training of cripples and their accommodation. Messrs. Haughey and Fox, architects, have been authorised to prepare plans for a comprehensive building on the Branch's fine site in Mount Street and work should commence in late 1961. The area here is occupied by four houses, the first, No. 9, purchased in March, 1943, for £1532; the others, Nos. 3, 5 and 7, followed between 1947 and 1957. In addition, headquarters buildings have been purchased and modernised in Hamilton, Whangarei and Rotorua and a Hostel in Auckland, the "Una Carter" Hostel, bequeathed to the Branch by Mrs. Una Stanley, was modernised and opened in 1958. These properties had a total value in 1958 of £37,969. The Auckland

centre adjoins the Seddon Memorial Technical College and is within a few minutes' walk of the city centre.

The number of crippled children on the rolls of the Branch in May, 1936, was 250; in 1937, 400; in 1938, 529; in 1940, 607; in 1942, 742; in 1943, 936. From that date there was a steady increase to 2194 in 1960.

It will be obvious from the rolls figures that honorary officers would no longer be able to cope with the work. In 1940, Miss Glen Park, a physiotherapist, took a part-time job in the city area for a short period. In 1943, Sister Claudia Ford became the first full-time Field Officer. In 1944, Sister Armstrong was appointed to cover the Waikato and Taumarunui Hospital Board areas. In 1945, Miss Claire Downey in Whangarei and North Auckland, Miss Adams in Bay of Plenty were the pioneers in those areas.

Mr. G. J. Park, who had been Hon. Secretary-Treasurer from 1935-46, and a part-time Secretary-Treasurer until 1950, resigned these offices when about to pay a prolonged visit to Australia. In recognition of his work, he was made presentations and his profile in bronze was placed on No. 9, Mount Street. Mr. Park attended a world conference in Cleveland, U.S.A., and visited Canada, England, Scotland, Denmark, Germany and Australia; he was deputy-Chairman of the Auckland Hospital Board and later was awarded the O.B.E.

The formation of Sub-Centres of the Branch commenced in 1943 with local committees in Hamilton, Dargaville, Whangarei, Tauranga, Whakatane and Opotiki. Over the years they have been reduced to four, located at Whangarei, Hamilton, Rotorua and Paeroa. Full local autonomy in case work has been left to the local committees, which draw on the Branch for funds required. All appeals by Sub-Centres are made in the name of the Auckland Branch and the results held in trust by the Sub-Centre. Only one sub-centre has withdrawn from the Branch and formed itself into a separate Branch at Tauranga.

Fund raising is of course fundamental to the work of the Branch. Accumulated Funds have from an amount of £1003 in 1936, increased to £3052 in 1941, to £6024 in 1944, to £12,492 in 1945, the year of the first Streets Appeal, to £33,065 in 1949, and including Reserve and Trust Funds to £110,000 in 1960. There have been few years when revenue has been below expenditure. Expenditures at £512 in 1936, mounted to £1542 in 1943, to £6207 in 1946, to £8339 in 1948, to £31,738 in 1957-58, and to £31,780 for 1960.

In order that the basic workers for crippled children in this area should be informed of the nature of their work overseas, the Branch was instrumental in having world experts brought here in the persons of Dr. Earl Carlson and Dr. Kessler, while Sister Faulconbridge (Matron at Wilson Home), Sister Cooper (Assistant Matron), Mrs. Townsend (Charge Physiotherapist) and Miss Paulette

Leaning, B.A., a teacher at the Earl Carlson Cerebral Palsy School and herself a victim of the disease, have had substantial grants to make overseas study possible.

From 1950 when Mr. A. G. Cook accepted the post of Managing Secretary of the Branch, and Mr. H. D. B. Stewart that of Hon. Treasurer, very substantial progress has been made, the following resume of which speaks for itself.

In December, 1950, the Branch occupied as headquarters, premises it had purchased at No. 9 Mount Street. During the year all services were maintained and expanded, the number of cases having increased during the year from 1498 to 1581. Lines of policy were formulated in that period of which the establishment of schools for cerebral palsy cases and a vocational training centre were important features.

The co-operation of the Auckland Education Board in establishing a day school for cerebral palsy cases was acknowledged in the Branch's report on its activities during the year 1951. The number of cases registered increased to 1980, and administration costs amounted to only 14.9 per cent. of the annual income.

In 1952 occurred the death of Mr. W. R. Wilson, donor (in 1937) of the Wilson Home for Crippled Children, and a warm friend of the Branch since its formation. The year showed continual progress. Thirty children had been given speech therapy, and 25 occupational and diversional therapy in their homes.

So encouraging had this work proved that it was decided to appoint an occupational therapist. The Education Board purchased a site for a cerebral palsy day school, and the Branch's kindergarten had been so successful as to warrant the institution of a permanent kindergarten. Another important proceeding during the year was a meeting with representatives of the sub-centres. A review of the work lying ahead resulted in the endorsement by the meeting, of proposals to establish, as soon as conditions would permit, a vocational training centre, and sheltered workshops for adolescent cases, unable to undertake ordinary employment.

The Branch's rapid advances brought their own anxieties and expense. In 1953 transport charges alone came to £1519. Experience demonstrated that group training at headquarters would be less expensive and more efficacious than teaching in individual homes. Training in the Branch's knitting centre had proved successful and it was recognised that expansion of vocational training was essential. A forward step was taken in January, 1953, by the appointment of Dr. S. L. Ludbrook as medical officer to the Branch.

In the following year a cottage, No. 3 Mount Street, was acquired and made an educational and trade training centre. In addition the speech therapy room was enlarged and it was recognised that with the expansion of the knitwear training, new premises

would be required. Tribute was paid to organisations who had made recreation possible by arranging outings for crippled children to the zoo, circuses, theatres, etc.

By 1955 cases registered had reached a total of 2142. The problem of chronic cases, and their care when parents or friends could no longer give it, was becoming more prominent. The services of medical and social advice, the special education made available at the Branch's own school or by special assistance to crippled children at normal schools, vocational training in the Branch's sheltered workshop or training by experts in the occupational therapy service, crippled boys and girls clubs which organised recreational and social activities. All these were brought again before the public with a request for financial assistance which had a gratifying result.

The problem of transport and accommodation of the country children also continued to increase and in the year £2012 was spent in direct assistance to town and country children and £408 on parties and presents.

During the year the premises at No. 5 Mount Street were made a school house and the sub-centres at Hamilton, Rotorua and Whangarei acquired premises as headquarters for those districts.

In 1956 the Branch achieved its majority and a review of 21 years' work made a stimulating record. The emphasis however, was not complacency for work accomplished, but enthusiasm for the work ahead, such as the provision of hostel accommodation for country children coming to the city for expert advice and treatment. It was noted with appreciation that the responsibility of the State for the care of chronic cases was being recognised by the Government.

In keeping with the need for more still more effort, a hostel was established during 1957, mainly through assistance given by Messrs. Tattersfield Ltd. The hostel will accommodate a matron and twelve children, and occupation began as soon as the premises were available.

A further step forward was envisaged by the amended Dadley Trust. From the Trust's funds, premises and equipment for a crippled children centre will be provided. The Auckland Branch of the New Zealand Crippled Children Society will occupy them as the operating body supervising the care of crippled children. A site in the city for the centre was being sought, it was reported, and an architect had been appointed.

As a means of improving the Branch's finances the establishment of a Remembrance Fund was advocated.

The year 1958 saw the purchase of premises at No. 7 Mount Street, making a whole block the Branch's property, and a new division, the knitwear division, was established in a new building at the rear of No. 3 Mount Street, for young people whose training is complete and who will be making knitwear for disposal.

Daily medical clinics were established in this year, and a further Field Officer for the Auckland metropolitan district was appointed. The hostel where city children are accommodated is to be used as a camp for younger children from the country, when city children go to their homes for vacations.

Children from Cook Islands had been enabled to attend the Middlemore Orthopaedic Hospital, through funds donated by the Auckland Branch and by the New Zealand Crippled Children Society without expense to the patients or to the State.

In 1959 re-organisation of Branch activities was carried out and in 1960 Mr. A. G. Cook was appointed Director, and Mr. R. D. McVicker full-time Secretary to the Branch.

CANTERBURY AND WEST COAST

THE CANTERBURY and West Coast Branch was formed in July, 1935, following a meeting called by the Rotary Club of Christchurch, and presided over by Mr. L. G. K. Steven, then President of the club. A considerable amount of organising work had been done and a strong committee was formed representative of many sections of the community. Mr. J. Leslie Will (Orthopaedic Surgeon) was elected President, and held that office until 1955 when he found it necessary to resign because of ill-health. Mrs. Cecil Wood, who was closely associated with the Plunket Society for many years, was elected Vice-President and still retains that office. Miss C. E. Robinson, formerly Vocational Guidance Officer, was a member of the first committee and is now a Vice-President. Among others who have served are Dean, now Bishop Warren of the Anglican Church, and the late Bishop Brodie, formerly Roman Catholic Bishop of Christchurch.

During the early years of the Branch the chief work was discovery and enlisting public support, chiefly through enrolment of members. The work now being done by Field Officers was carried out by honorary workers with the assistance of Toc H members and lady members of our own committee. After some years, a part-time Welfare Officer was appointed, and as the work increased the Branch's own office was established with a full-time Secretary, Field Officer and Transport Officer. An Assistant Field Officer who combines the duties of the Transport Officer with a certain amount of field work has since been appointed.

The district covered by the Branch is from the Clarence River in the north to the Rangitata River in the south and from the East to the West Coast. In order to make adequate coverage of the whole area sub-branches were formed at Greymouth and Westport in 1938, Hokitika in 1939, and Reefton in 1946, at which towns the Branch is very well served by enthusiastic committees. Unfortu-

nately, a sub-branch formed at Ashburton did not function to any extent and was subsequently closed and the district is now worked from Christchurch.

At the end of the first year we had registered 61 cases—our total registrations to date number 2299 children. Of these 1666 have been deleted for various reasons, the largest number because of no further treatment and help being required. The present number of the register is about 630.

During the early years of the Branch, operating with part-time officers, our income was sufficient to cover expenses and grants, but when its own offices and full-time staff were established the income was inadequate. Eventually arrangements were made with a firm of dealers to organise a yearly rag drive on behalf of the Branch. This venture has proved very worth while in solving most of the financial worries. Since the arrangement was commenced the proceeds received total over £10,000, and so enabled the purchase of the Branch's premises situated close to the Public Hospital. The Branch has also received generous support from sympathetic friends and supporters. Legacies amounting to £18,000 have been received, and £1800 has been received from Life Members. Both sums have been credited to our accumulated fund which now stands at £29,000.

The activities of the Branch through the years have been many and varied. Children have been transported to and from hospital for clinics and treatment; assistance has been given with the provision of surgical footwear; grants have been made towards special travelling, or educational expenses; equipment has been loaned so that children may be nursed at home instead of spending long periods in hospital; wheel chairs and tricycles to encourage the mobility of crippled children have been loaned for as long as required; advice has been given to parents on the care and training of the children in their own homes; and contact has been kept right through the years with all who have had dealings with the children, doctors, parents, teachers, employers, etc. In the early years the Branch organised an annual Christmas Party for all the children, but nowadays the children join in so many activities in the community at large that this practice has been discontinued, but all the children registered are remembered at Christmas and on their birthdays.

One of the difficulties in the early years of the Branch was finding the best way of helping the cerebral palsied children. After the visit of Dr. Carlson it was able to do some effective work, and arising out of this Miss Margaret Hartridge was appointed, in 1954, as Visiting Physiotherapist to the children in their own homes, the cost being borne by the New Zealand Crippled Children Society. This work immediately proved to be of invaluable assistance to parents needing help and advice, and was so successful that it has since been developed on a national basis as a responsibility of the Health Department.

One of the most effective means of helping the children has been the swimming class which was started twenty-one years ago. This class still meets regularly every Thursday during term time, winter and summer, with an average attendance throughout the year of 25. Children come to it from all parts of Christchurch and the surrounding districts and remain on the roll until they are able to "hold their own" adequately in their own school swimming classes. This class has been conducted right from its inception in 1937 by Mr. Breward, and many children owe him a real debt of gratitude for his skill and patience in teaching them to swim, and for many of them, giving them their only possible sporting activity.

No review of our work would be complete without reference to the ready co-operation and sympathetic assistance given by a multitude of folk. The Branch has always enjoyed the confidence of, and had the happiest relations with, the medical profession. We have turned to them on many occasions for advice on children registered, or wishing to be registered, with the Branch, and have sought their help on Medical Advisory Committees, and on our General Committee. Much highly skilled professional help has been given to children free of all charge, and unknown to anyone but the parents and the Branch, for which it is indeed grateful.

Canterbury Education Board, too, has always given great assistance, and tribute is due to the teachers who have helped many a child over a difficult hurdle, and done so much for the children's rehabilitation. The Education Department, through its Vocational Guidance Officers, and the Psychological Division, etc., has also played its part in the Branch's work. The North Canterbury Hospital Board, the Hospital Boards on the West Coast, and the Health Department, have also made their contribution to this work, and their co-operation and assistance whenever asked has been enjoyed.

The Branch today, in its twenty-fifth year, has a General Committee, including the President, Mr. L. G. K. Steven (since elected Patron), and three Vice-Presidents, Mrs. Cicil Wood, Miss C. E. Robinson and Professor H. E. Field (since elected President), and fifteen active members representing all sections of the community. The Life Membership stands at 306, and there are 491 annual subscribers in Canterbury and 252 on the West Coast. The Branch owns its freehold premises, which are in full and constant use. Parents and their children, particularly those from the country districts, are using the rooms more and more when they bring children to town for clinics and treatment, and much help and advice is given by the staff on our own premises. In the last year the two Field Officers in Canterbury travelled some 25,000 miles, transporting children and visiting them in their homes, whilst on the West Coast the honorary field officers and secretaries kept in constant touch with the children, however remote the districts in which they lived. Of the 633 children registered with the Branch, 466 live in Canterbury and 167 on the Coast. By arrangement with

the Health Department, Mr. J. Leslie Will visits the West Coast quarterly for the purpose of holding Orthopaedic Clinics, and the reports of these clinics are made available to the Branch, so that it is kept well aware of the needs of the children there. The Branch now owns two modern cars which are in full time use by the Field Officers in Canterbury, and when need arises a taxi transport is made available. The Branch also owns 49 wheelchairs and 32 tricycles, as well as a large amount of other equipment, which is all maintained in good order and is loaned to children for as long as required.

DUNEDIN

IN KEEPING with other Rotary Clubs in New Zealand, the Dunedin Club lost no time in complying with the decision of the 1935 Rotary Conference and following preliminary organisation, a public meeting was held on 30th April, 1935.

It was there unanimously resolved that a Branch of the New Zealand Crippled Children Society be formed and Mr. F. W. Mitchell became the first President. Many notable citizens joined the Executive Committee, including Mr. V. S. Jacobs, who subsequently succeeded Mr. Mitchell as President. He occupied this position continuously for years and virtually died "in harness" in 1958, only a few months after his re-election for the 17th time.

Mr. R. S. M. Sinclair was the first Secretary of the Branch, whose present organisation is largely due to his efforts. He held the office continuously for sixteen years, when pressure of other business compelled him to resign. The present Secretary of the Branch, Mr. W. R. Sellar, took up the office at that time.

In the early years of its life, the Branch followed the usual pattern of the Society as a whole.

In 1949, following the visit of Dr. Earl Carlson, the Branch assisted in the establishment of the first Cerebral Palsy day school in New Zealand. Prior to her taking up her duties, the Head Teacher, Miss C. Macadam, was sent to Australia by the Branch to obtain, at first hand, information and experience in caring for and teaching sufferers from Cerebral Palsy.

This School was opened in Knox Church Sunday School Hall, and the responsibility for its administration was taken over by the State Education Department. The School was subsequently moved to its present site at Vauxhall where, in addition to normal education, the children receive physiotherapy, speech therapy and occupational therapy treatment.

The next milestone was reached in 1952 when the then Minister of Education officially opened the Society's Free Kindergarten which was under the direction of Miss K. N. Binney, assisted by Mrs. A. McKerrow. Originally intended for Cerebral Palsy cases only, of

kindergarten age, the roll in the first year of the kindergarten's operations totalled twelve. Some two years later, the Executive readily agreed to the Director's recommendation that a limited number of physically handicapped children, other than cerebral palsied be admitted, and this development has proved to be most valuable to both classes of children. During its comparatively short life some fifty children have passed through the Kindergarten and of these, some 50 per cent. have "graduated" to either a normal kindergarten or a normal school.

While a fairly large expenditure was involved in establishing the Kindergarten, the capital outlay was substantially reduced by the ready co-operation of the Otago Hospital Board which made a building available for conversion, and the many donations of goods and services which were received from business firms in the city.

The Society's first Field Officer was Miss Vida Jacobs, who held that office for a number of years. In 1952 Miss Jones, who had been Transport Officer, was appointed Field Officer and Miss Alison Tyrie took over the transport duties. These two ladies worked as a closely-knit team until Miss Jones's retirement in 1959. She was succeeded by Miss V. A. Hayward and she and Miss Tyrie work together with the same willing co-operation.

One of the greatest assets which a Branch of the Society can have, is possessed by this Branch. The presence in Dunedin of the National Medical School and the National School of Physiotherapy in addition to two general hospitals, ensures that all types of treatment are readily at hand. The Branch has always had the ready co-operation of the governing bodies and the staffs of these organisations, even to the extent of having on its committees members of the staffs of the Hospital and Physiotherapy School.

The support accorded to the Society by the community generally, in both a material and personal way, has been outstanding, with the result that the financial position of the Branch is very healthy indeed. The waste cloth drive which was originated in Dunedin and subsequently adopted by all other Branches was, in its early years, a source of a substantial portion of the Branch's revenue. With the inevitable competition which has arisen, the financial results of recent drives have fallen. The Branch is, however, deeply indebted to the many generous testators who have bequeathed amounts, great and small, to ensure that the work of the Society will continue.

Research has always been uppermost in the minds of members of the Executive and financial assistance has been given, from a special fund established some years ago and known as the Cerebral Palsy and Poliomyelitis Research Fund, to qualified persons to carry out research into the causes of these disabilities.

The present President of the Society, Mr. H. T. Speight, who succeeded the late Mr. Jacobs after having served as Vice-President for many years, has the wholehearted support of the members of

the Society and the community in general. With Mr. Speight's leadership and the willing co-operation of the community at large, the continued success of the Society in Otago is assured.

WELLINGTON

THE WELLINGTON BRANCH OF the New Zealand Crippled Children Society was formed at a meeting held on the 29th May, 1935, in the Chamber of Commerce Hall, Wakefield Street, Wellington. The meeting was called by the Wellington Rotary Club and was presided over by Mr. Frank Campbell. Officers elected at this meeting were: Patron, the Mayor of Wellington, Mr. T. C. A. Hislop; President, Mrs. Knox Gilmer; 13 Vice-Presidents and a Committee of twenty-eight.

Of these original office-bearers, Lady Pomare and Lady Gillies are still Vice-Presidents of the Branch. Mrs. F. C. Spratt, one of the original foundation members, has been an active member of the Branch since its beginning and is still a member of the Executive Committee, as well as the Welfare Committee. Miss I. Myers, also a foundation member, is a member of the Welfare Committee.

The first Honorary Secretary of the Branch was Mr. Malcolm Fraser. The Honorary Treasurers, Messrs. Ernest Hunt Turner and Co., the Honorary Solicitors, Messrs. Morison, Spratt, Taylor and Co., and the Honorary Auditor, Mr. C. H. Suisted, are all still serving the Branch in these honorary capacities.

Following the inaugural meeting, a public meeting was held in the Concert Chamber of the Wellington Town Hall on 14th June, 1935, when the following resolution was passed: "That this public meeting of citizens of Wellington (a) heartily endorses the formation of a Wellington Branch of the New Zealand Crippled Children Society (Incorporated), (b) approves of the constitution and policy of the Society as explained by the various speakers, and (c) pledges itself to support and advance the work of the Society by all means in its power."

In the first year 92 cases were registered. At the 31st March, 1960, there were 500 cases on the register. In October, 1936, the first Welfare Officer was appointed, and in July, 1944, a second Welfare Officer was appointed. In July, 1939, the Branch rented a suite of rooms in Brandon House, Featherston Street, where the services to crippled children continued to grow.

The scope of the work has changed considerably from the early years when it was necessary to locate the actual cases, often very difficult because the more seriously handicapped were hidden away in their homes without even the neighbours knowing of their existence. This Branch made a survey of schools within its district to discover cases and it was found that the public as well as schoolmasters were not aware of these cases attending the schools. In

one particular case after a schoolmaster had stated that there were no crippled children attending his school it was found that there was a boy with a congenital absence of hand.

A long uphill battle was fought to get improved conditions regarding surgical footwear for children—particularly provision for two pairs so that one pair could be worn while the other pair was being repaired.

Under-rate workers permits are arranged for those young people unable to do a full rate job. At the present time, under changed conditions, it is more a question of employment for the unemployable as there is no shortage of jobs available for those who are able to go into employment.

Wellington is probably unique in the amount of work it does for other Branch cases coming to Wellington for treatment. Cases come from as far afield as Whangarei, Gisborne and Invercargill and these cases are met at airways, boats and trains, and transported to hospitals, etc., whilst sometimes accommodation is found and the return travel details attended to.

As a forerunner to the Cerebral Palsy Day School now established by the Education Department, a small group of children were assisted with education by the Branch—in some cases tutors were provided to assist with correspondence school lessons. Later when the Correspondence School brought this small group together on two mornings a week the Branch provided the necessary transport. This particular group of children were the means of proving to the authorities the need for a cerebral palsy day school and the Branch brought the matter before the local Education Board and pressed for daily education for these children, thus establishing the Kimi-Ora cerebral palsy day school now run by the Education Department.

The Wellington Branch has had six Presidents since it was formed in 1935. Mrs. Knox Gilmer was President for six years, followed by Mr. Malcolm Fraser in 1941, Mr. L. T. Watkins in 1942, Mr. Ernest W. Hunt in 1945, Mr. S. M. Hobbs in 1946 and the present President, Sir Alexander Gillies, who was elected in 1951.

In 1955 the Branch purchased its own property at Miramar and the offices of the Branch were transferred from Featherston Street to 36 Para Street, Miramar, where a kindergarten for cerebral palsy cases under the age of five years was established. Later a sheltered workshop was set up for young people in the age group of 16 years onwards. Both of these developments have proved to be worth while. The number of young people attending the sheltered workshop has risen to twelve and a very high standard of work is being produced on electric sewing machines. Through the generosity of the Godfrey William Magnus Trust two small busettes were purchased and a full-time transport officer was engaged in 1957. These busettes are used to transport the young people to and from the Centre at Miramar daily.

COOK ISLANDS

THE COOK ISLANDS BRANCH of the New Zealand Crippled Children Society, although not having that title at the time, had its beginning in 1946 when Judge Harvey, of the Maori Land Court of New Zealand, sponsored the treatment in New Zealand of a young lad from Rarotonga.

Following this initial effort, a small number of European residents in Rarotonga got together and arranged periodic social functions for the purpose of raising funds to send other known cases of crippling ailments to New Zealand for specialist treatment. It was evident, however, that there were many more crippled children in the Cook Group than it was at first suspected and that a much stronger effort was necessary if those children were to be cured of their disabilities.

Mr. W. H. Watson therefore convened a public meeting with a view to forming a local Crippled Children Society.

At that meeting, which was held on the 25th May, 1951, Judge H. J. Morgan was elected President and has held the office ever since.

Early in 1953, following special legislation being passed by the New Zealand Government, the Society became an incorporated body and has since been known as The Cook Islands Branch of the New Zealand Crippled Children Society Inc.

As no specialist treatment is generally available within the Cook Islands, a large number of children have had to be sent to New Zealand hospitals. Finance for this has mainly been derived from voluntary donations, or otherwise raised locally, and it is creditable to all concerned with the cause over the period, that of the 88 children registered since 1946, 39 have received treatment in New Zealand, eight of whom are still in hospitals there. Those remaining on the register have received treatment locally or are awaiting their chance for treatment.

The Cook Islands Branch has no assets, other than its hard-working, determined committee, whose ambition is the policy of the whole Society, to give every crippled child the chance of full recovery.

GISBORNE, WAIROA AND EAST COAST

AS THE RESULT of steps taken by the Gisborne Rotary Club, a public meeting was convened by the Mayor of Gisborne on the 27th March, 1935, for the purpose of forming a local branch of the New Zealand Crippled Children Society. In the absence of the Mayor the meeting was presided over by the deputy-Mayor, Mr. H. E. Maude. The objects of the N.Z. Society were explained to the meeting by the President of the Gisborne Rotary Club, Mr. R. F. Gambrill. After a general discussion it was unanimously

resolved that a branch of the Society be formed in Gisborne to embrace the Borough of Gisborne and the Counties of Cook, Waikohu, Uawa, Waiapu and Matakaoa.

The first officers elected were Mr. F. W. Nolan, President; Mr. A. L. Muir, Vice-President; Mr. R. F. Gambrill, Hon. Solicitor; and an Executive Committee comprising Mrs. L. Balfour, Dr. H. G. Rice, Messrs. C. Matthews, J. Peach, J. E. Shimmin, H. Kenway and G. Hutton. Mr. M. L. Foster was appointed Secretary.

The Branch was duly incorporated in April, 1935, and got into operation without delay. From its beginning it had the support of the public and the goodwill of the medical profession. By the end of its first year the Branch had been able to render assistance in all cases where it was needed among the crippled children on its register. Its operations widened steadily during the following years.

In 1940 the Branch appointed Mrs. J. A. Dickson as Welfare Officer. In the beginning the appointment was a part-time one, but Mrs. Dickson's ability in seeking out and dealing with fresh cases soon made it necessary to make the appointment a full-time one. At the end of that year there were 112 cases registered with the Branch—more than double the number of registrations of the previous year. In 1941 the travelling orthopaedic clinic under Dr. Walter Robertson, Wellington, began making regular visits to Gisborne and Te Puia, which enabled the Branch to bring in a larger number of cases for treatment. The travelling clinic ceased to operate in 1949, when the work of the clinic was taken over by Mr. W. Parke, of the Cook Hospital, in whose capable hands the work has continued down to the present time.

In 1949 also, at the request of the New Zealand Society, this Branch undertook the administration of an additional area which had formerly been part of the Hawke's Bay Branch's area. This makes this district a very large one, extending from the Mohaka River in the South, to Hicks Bay in the North. Regular clinics are held at Wairoa, Gisborne and Te Puia. As regular communication is by road, mostly over hill country, this entails a very considerable amount of travelling on the part of the Welfare Officer, her annual mileage by car being between 15,000 and 17,000 miles.

The Branch has purchased a cottage which is situated in a central position in the town of Gisborne. This is of great value as a resting place for crippled children who are brought in from outlying districts to attend clinics, or are on their way to larger centres for specialised treatment.

Now (1960) with a total registration of 250 crippled children on its books, the Branch's outgoings have increased greatly. This year nearly £3000 was required to cover expenditure and it is expected that the income required next year will be considerably larger.

Nevertheless with the continued support of the public the Branch can look forward with confidence to an ever widening sphere of activity in its work.

HAWKE'S BAY

ROTARY, WHICH FIGURED so largely in the formation of the N.Z. Crippled Children Society, since Dr. (now Sir) Alexander Gillies spoke on the subject of crippled children to the Rotary Club of Wellington in 1930, was prominent in establishing the Hawke's Bay Branch in 1935. Mr. A. Hobson was President of Rotary, Napier, at the time, and Mr. A. E. O'Meara, of Rotary Hastings. Both were prominent in the Society for many years, Mr. O'Meara being a member of the Executive at his death.

The Mayor of Napier, Mr. C. A. Morse, convened a public meeting of those interested in the formation of a branch on 16th April, 1935, and much of the preliminary work was done by the Rotary Clubs of Napier and Hastings, assisted by the clubs of Dannevirke and Gisborne. In addition, the Branch has to thank the Hawke's Bay Education Board for a very worthy contribution towards stimulating interest and giving the meeting reliable information as to the desirability of forming a branch. The Board obtained particulars of 55 crippled children attending schools and 18 unable to attend school.

There was no question about the success of the public meeting. An enthusiastic gathering resolved to form a Branch, and a thoroughly representative Committee was elected with Mr. T. H. Lowry, Patron; Mr. F. B. Logan, President; Mr. R. E. H. Pilson, Hon. Secretary; Mr. W. G. Wood, Hon. Treasurer; and Mr. M. R. Grant, Hon. Solicitor. Upon the death of her husband, Mrs. T. H. Lowry became Patron, took an active interest in the society and regularly attended meetings. Upon her death, Mr. M. R. Grant, President for a good number of years, was elected Patron. In 1951 Mr. W. F. Kent-Johnson was elected President, a position he still holds. Mr. R. W. Wallace, a foundation committee member, succeeded Mr. Pilson as Hon. Secretary early in the Branch's history, and continued until comparatively recently. He continued a member of the Executive until his death in 1960. Mr. Wallace was succeeded as Secretary-Treasurer by Mr. I. L. Prime. Mrs. Prime is a daughter of the late Mr. T. C. List, of New Plymouth, District Governor of Rotary, New Zealand, in 1933-34, to whose report and advocacy the formation of the New Zealand Society is largely due. Mr. Prime resigned in 1957 and Mr. B. C. Kivell was appointed Secretary. In December that year Mr. and Mrs. H. Johnson were appointed joint Secretaries.

Twenty-two crippled children were speedily enrolled in 1935 and next year after an outbreak of polio in the district the roll reached 73, steadily increasing year by year. The present number on the register is 240, which includes 39 cases notified during the preceding year, less cured, transferred or withdrawn.

Originally the territory of the Branch included the Hospital Board districts of Wairoa, Hawke's Bay and Waipawa, extending

from Mahia to Takapau. Dannevirke was included in the Manawatu Branch. In 1950 orthopaedic work at the Wairoa Hospital was taken over by the Cook Hospital Board, Gisborne, and shortly afterwards, the Wairoa area, previously cared for by the Hawke's Bay Branch of the Society, was placed under the Gisborne Branch.

The Branch at a fairly early stage secured the services of a retired masseur as a part-time Welfare Officer, and for many years he visited all cases, giving to many corrective treatment and massage, where prescribed, in their homes. Age caused his retirement in 1950, when he was succeeded on a part-time basis by a retired trained nurse.

A big uplift to the Society in Hawke's Bay was the inauguration in 1946 by the Health Department of a travelling Orthopaedic Clinic to the Hospitals at Napier, Hastings, Waipukurau and Wairoa at six-monthly intervals, increased to three-monthly visits the following year. Every possible assistance was given by the New Zealand Society to these clinics which were responsible for larger numbers of children receiving attention and follow-up treatment with an overall beneficial result.

With the appointment of an Orthopaedic Surgeon, Mr. G. J. Taine, by the Hawke's Bay Hospital Board in February, 1955, the Travelling Clinics ended and more frequent clinics were held at Napier, Hastings and Waipukurau by a surgeon resident in the district. The new arrangement was undoubtedly greatly to the advantage of the crippled cases. With the more frequent clinics and the resultant additional work devolving upon the Field Officer, that position was made full-time from 1st March, 1955. In 1953 the Branch purchased a Morris car for the Field Officer—previously the Branch had paid for use of his car on a mileage basis—and this type of car prevailed until replaced in 1958 by a Fiat Multipla Station Wagon which proved vastly superior for transport of severely crippled children, an increasing feature of present operations.

In view of increasing difficulties and long delays in obtaining surgical footwear it was decided in 1951, after ascertaining that the Hawke's Bay Hospital Board was not contemplating a Surgical Boot Department, to engage a surgical bootmaker and set up our own establishment. This was made possible through the generosity of Mrs. Lowry. After working successfully for 12 months, the bootmaker left the district. A replacement was not forthcoming, and as the Hospital Board at that juncture had decided to set up its own footwear department, the Branch closed its shop and disposed of its plant.

The Pukeora Home for Disabled Adolescents was opened at Waipukurau on 7th May, 1957. The Branch has assisted with the transport of cases to the Home and in organising entertainment for the residents. It is now the liaison for all branches between the society and the local hospital board.

On the Executive and a member of the General Committee for many years is Mr. A. W. Taff, whose invention of the "Distaff" apparatus for armless cripples has transformed their lives and outlooks both in New Zealand and overseas. In addition he has provided amenities for many severely crippled persons by other ingenious and original contrivances.

The Branch now rents a room in Hastings Street, Napier. Committee meetings are held here, and the Field Officer uses it both as an office and a headquarters in which to meet parents. Being centrally situated, the moderate rental paid is well justified.

The local Kindergarten Society has recently made available their premises and equipment for the use of crippled cases of the Branch. This is beneficial to the children and affords a respite for their mothers.

Still more recently a Women's Auxiliary has been formed for general assistance to cases, and in particular with transport, Kindergarten work, swimming classes, etc. It is perhaps too early to visualise the full potential of such a body.

As in other places, the Branch enjoys the confidence of the general public—it has only to make its needs known and the required support is forthcoming.

MANAWATU

THE PALMERSTON NORTH ROTARY CLUB was instrumental in arranging for a public meeting to be held in the Municipal Chambers on the 3rd May, 1935, with the object of forming a Branch of the New Zealand Crippled Children Society in the Manawatu. His Worship the Mayor, Mr. A. E. Mansford, presided and speakers were Messrs. W. S. Carter, President of the Palmerston North Rotary Club, Dr. E. C. Barnett, Mr. W. S. Wylie, Mr. B. J. Jacobs and Mr. W. G. Black. The following officers were elected: President, Mr. W. G. Black; Secretary, Mr. T. W. Henderson; Treasurer, Mr. P. S. Larcomb; Committee, Messrs. W. S. Carter, S. Rawle, G. G. Hancox, K. G. Chamberlain, Mesdames G. Priest, B. J. Jacobs, Trask, W. G. Black, R. T. Jaggard, A. E. Mansford, Misses A. M. Kearns and K. Spensley.

It is pleasing to note that Mr. G. G. Hancox and Mrs. Black are still active members of the Committee.

The first Committee meeting was held on the same day when the rules of the newly formed Society were adopted. The boundaries established were: the Southern boundary the Ohau River, the Western boundary the coast, the Northern boundary the Rangitikei River, and the Eastern boundary the Tararua Ranges.

A separate Branch of the Society was also formed at Dannevirke in 1935, but in the same year an approach was made by the Danne-

virke Branch to join the Manawatu Branch, an arrangement that was subsequently brought about.

The first task of the Branch was to launch a programme of propaganda disseminating information concerning the purpose of the Society through the agencies of the Women's Divisions, Schools, Radio talks, and Press notices with the object of inviting reports of cases and applications for necessary immediate assistance to crippled children. Immediate steps were also taken to obtain the co-operation and assistance of all members of the local branch of the British Medical Association.

The first objective of the Branch was the equipping of a special ward at the Public Hospital for orthopaedic work and a public appeal was launched for support by membership, life membership and contributions.

The Branch has progressed steadily over the years and at the 31st March, 1960, it has 392 cases registered and its accumulated fund stands at more than £17,000.

MARLBOROUGH

THE ROTARY CLUB OF BLENHEIM called a public meeting on 10th April, 1935, to consider and if thought fit establish a Marlborough Branch of the N.Z. Crippled Children Society. The Mayor was chairman and 40 citizens were present. Representatives of the Club explained the purposes and reasons for the formation of the Branch and moved the resolution to form a Branch. Dr. Russell Adams was elected the first President. At the first meeting of the Executive Mr. W. R. T. White was appointed Secretary and Treasurer and has held that office ever since. His work and interest and quiet efficiency have been greatly appreciated by members of the Branch.

For the first eight years of the Branch's history, the welfare work was carried out by several ladies of the executive and certain lady members, on a voluntary basis, and their services were of great value in those early years. Then it was considered necessary to appoint a permanent welfare officer and Mrs. E. M. Fenwick was appointed on 1st November, 1943. This appointment was the beginning of a great development of the work for crippled children in this district. She visits the homes, registers the children, attends to their urgent needs, arranges for their attendance at clinics for examination and advice, and in her monthly reports to the Executive records the cases requiring help, makes recommendations and later carries out the decisions of the executive. The Welfare Officer has been of great assistance to the executive. Mrs. Fenwick, after 17 years' service as Welfare Officer, now desires to retire. She has rendered outstanding service to the crippled children and won the

hearts and confidence of the children as well as of their parents by her efficient work and her sympathy and understanding.

Another important development, started in January, 1944, is the Orthopaedic Clinic held four times a year, at which an orthopaedic expert from Wellington attends. He examines the children, reports on their condition and advises on the help required. These Clinics are held at the Wairau Hospital and the average number of children attending each clinic is between 35 and 40. The clinics are much appreciated by the parents of the children attending, and the Branch Executive has found them of great value and assistance in carrying out their duties.

The Society has received throughout its existence assistance and co-operation from the members of the Medical Profession, from the Hospital Board and especially from its Superintendent, Mr. G. P. Smart.

A sub-branch was formed in Picton about 1939, and it has looked after the welfare of the crippled children in its area. This also has been a great help to the Branch Executive.

The finance of the Marlborough Branch come from subscriptions of members, donations and legacies, contributions from the New Zealand Society and an "Annual Appeal." The first Annual Appeal was in March, 1940, comprising a Flag day, which resulted in £44 profit. Next year the first Shop day produced £59 profit and since then each Annual Shop day has resulted in liberal contributions from the public, the last one resulting in a profit of £373. The lady members of the executive and other lady members are responsible for the success of these Annual Shop Day Appeals.

The Marlborough Branch has registered 473 cases since its formation and there are 142 at present on the Register. The Executive has within the limits of its financial resources carried out the aims and objects of the Society. No crippled child has been denied help or assistance. The Branch has the continuous support of its members and of the public and this has had a heartening effect on its executive. The Branch can face the future with confidence.

NELSON

IN COMMON WITH OTHER Rotary Clubs of New Zealand, the Rotarians of the Nelson Club were anxious to assist to the utmost the project of founding a Crippled Children Society. When the idea had first been mooted by Dr. (now Sir) Alexander Gillies in 1930, the Nelson Club had invited Sir Alexander to visit Nelson and place his ideas before them. This he did and the outcome was a promise of their wholehearted support, and plans for the establishment of such a Society for this district were quickly under weigh. The resolution that a Crippled Children Society for New Zealand

be formed was carried at the Dominion Conference of Rotary at Timaru in 1935, and the Certificate of Incorporation of the Nelson Branch N.Z. Crippled Children Society was signed in November, 1935.

A public meeting was called of all interested organisations who sent representatives, and promised help. The first President elected was the late Mr. Thos. Neale, and Mr. W. A. Armstrong, at that time President of the Nelson Rotary Club, was one of the first members of the elected Executive committee. With him were Mr. H. J. Savage, and Mrs. S. Robinson, who have been continuously re-elected to the Executive committee to date.

The first year was spent mainly with exploration, and planning. Initially a survey was made by the Rotary Club of Nelson throughout the schools of the district, when 35 cases had been submitted as possibly needing the assistance of such a Society. These were investigated and assessed, and 28 of them were found to be within the scope of the Branch's activities. Sir Alexander Gillies held a clinic at Nelson Hospital to examine them in January, 1936. This was the forerunner of the travelling clinics now held in country districts which were established in 1940 for other districts, and here again was the evidence of the masterly minds guiding the destiny of the New Zealand Society, so valuable have these clinics proved.

Twenty-eight cases were examined at the 1936 clinic and today, over twenty years later, it can be stated that all those children are now, after having received skilled care and attention, in lucrative positions, or happily married, with healthy children of their own.

Nelson has been particularly fortunate in retaining the services of Sir Alexander Gillies in the capacity of consultant surgeon throughout the whole of the life of the Branch. Quarterly visits are paid each year and hundreds of children have been examined by him at Nelson Hospital, and where possible surgery performed by Sir Alexander there. Practical evidence of his skill and knowledge abounds in this district.

It was not possible for major orthopaedic surgery to be carried out at the Nelson Hospital in the early days of the Branch, so cases were transported before the advent of air travel, by steamer to Wellington, and the necessary arrangements and cost were met by the Branch, which also subsidised the Hospital Board for the cost of hospital maintenance. Splints and surgical footwear also had to be procured from Wellington, and this proved a costly business.

As the funds at the end of the first year of the Branch's establishment were only £129 it was realised that further income was imperative and a circular appeal was sent out to all organisations who responded by adding over £500, which, together with the sum of £290 from the fund remitted to the Mayor of Nelson by Lord Nuffield made it possible for plans to be made to assist a greater number of children. At that time the number of known children

was 28—today it is over 500 more. Well over 2000 children have received assistance from the Nelson Branch, and all acknowledge their well-being to the help received.

Mrs. T. E. Hudson was elected as Honorary Secretary early in 1937 to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of Mr. J. Fitzgerald. She gave her full time to the work of the Branch, also acting as Welfare Officer for 15 years. In 1954 it was found that the work needed more than one person, and a full-time Field Officer was appointed. Mrs. Hudson still retains her position as Honorary Secretary.

The expenditure the first year on the work of the Branch was £15, and in the second year £50. Today it is over £2500 per annum—the result—happiness and well-being for hundreds of children. No child is unemployed, and none home-bound, truly a tribute to outstanding services rendered by a highly skilled surgeon, a most co-operative Hospital Superintendent, Dr. P. C. E. Brunette, a Hospital Board who have always shown sympathetic interest in Branch requests for ancillary services, and excellent teamwork on the part of our Executive.

Membership of the Nelson Branch is today over 2600, surely a vote of confidence by the public in the work it is trying to carry out, and which is still guided by some of the Rotarians who assisted in its foundation. The Branch is very fortunate in retaining the interest and services of our Executive members, most of whom have served for a great number of years. They are Mr. R. I. Blair, President, Messrs. W. A. Armstrong, E. A. Bone, H. J. Savage, E. R. Moss, A. Landels, H. C. Collins, Hon. Treasurer, and Mrs. S. Robinson and Mrs. T. E. Hudson, Hon. Secretary.

The Branch has a central office where administrative work is carried out, and where mothers may receive advice, and leave surgical footwear and equipment for attention. There are plans for extended personal services to be given to our many country cases, and, in time, a holiday home where children and their parents may have a holiday in our salubrious climate from districts where perhaps they are not so fortunate.

NEW PLYMOUTH

AS ELSEWHERE, THE New Plymouth Branch was fostered by the local Rotary Club, whose members heard much about crippled children in 1933-34 from the late T. C. List, Governor of Rotary in New Zealand for that year, and a former President of the New Plymouth club. His share in founding the New Zealand Society is described elsewhere, but its influence was felt considerably in New Plymouth.

The New Plymouth Rotary Club organised a meeting held on April 11th, 1935, presided over by Rotarian W. H. Jones, at which it

was decided to form a New Plymouth Branch of the New Zealand Crippled Children Society.

Dr. G. Home, C.B.E., was elected President, Messrs. P. E. Stainton and J. A. Valentine Vice-Presidents, Mr. R. H. Quilliam Solicitor, Mr. W. H. Quickfall Treasurer, Miss M. Cormack Secretary, and a committee of fifteen.

The choice of officers was not haphazard. The medical, legal and teaching professions as well as the business community were directly represented. Thus a team was created that soon obtained the co-operation of the public and the professions. It enabled the fundamental principle—that all offices held and work performed for the new Branch should be voluntary—to be upheld and success achieved. Messrs. Stainton, Quickfall and Quilliam are still in office.

The decision to form a local society was confirmed at a public meeting held on April 17th, 1935, and incorporation followed the next day.

The meeting added 30 members and on May 1st the Branch had £150/3/4 in hand, of which £101/4/10 had been donated by the New Plymouth Rotary Club. A month later the first case was registered and the first annual meeting was held on August 7th.

Early in 1936 Dr. Home left on a visit to Europe and Mr. Stainton was appointed President, a position he has held ever since. In July that year Miss Cormack left New Plymouth and Mr. H. E. Carey was elected Secretary, a position he still holds.

At the second annual meeting (July 21st, 1936) the report showed 74 members, £183/15/8 raised, 24 cases registered and the full co-operation by the medical, legal and teaching professions and by the New Plymouth Hospital authorities and staff that has continued ever since.

In December, 1936, the first special teacher was appointed. Already problems of vocational training were increasing.

A great help towards their solution came in April, 1937, by an allocation of £400 by the Mayor of New Plymouth from funds donated by Lord Nuffield for vocational training. In 1940 the Dominion Executive also made a special grant for this purpose.

For twenty-five years work has continued normally through willing voluntary service of officers, committee members and others. Lack of space prevents their names being mentioned here.

In 1957 a part-time Field Officer, Mrs. C. C. Smith, a qualified teacher, was appointed. She has rendered good service which continues to expand. Otherwise there has been no change in administrative methods, although personnel have altered as circumstances demanded.

Since the Branch was established 750 cases have been registered and at 31st March, 1960, there were 217 cases receiving attention. They have included cases from the Waitara, Opunake and Inglewood districts where energetic members have carried on much voluntary work.

Inspiring features of the Branch work are: (1) That it has assisted 60 handicapped young people to obtain suitable employment and they are now taking their full share in citizenship; (2) that in most cases the Branch's efforts have the hearty support of parents and—more important still—the brave co-operation of the handicapped young people themselves.

Problems are still being faced, but no crippled child will be refused assistance because of its cost. The support of the public and of kindred social welfare organisations has been so continuous and heartening that the future can be faced with confidence.

NORTH OTAGO

A NORTH OTAGO BRANCH of the New Zealand Crippled Children Society was formed at a public meeting held in Oamaru on April 3rd, 1935. The Mayor of Oamaru presided at the meeting which was sponsored by the Oamaru Rotary Club. The aims and objects of the Society were clearly defined by Mr. Frank Milner, Rector of Waitaki Boys' High School, who had seen such societies in action in America and was co-operating closely with New Zealand Rotarians who were working enthusiastically for the establishment of Branches throughout the Dominion. Drs. Alexander Douglas and R. S. J. Fitzgerald strongly supported the establishment of a Branch in North Otago and the meeting unanimously decided to do so. The first President was Rotarian William Kinder, who held office continuously until 1950.

During that long period the work of the Branch was carried on very quietly and at times finances were severely strained, but generous help was always forthcoming so that no case had to be overlooked for want of finance.

Mr. James Rodman followed Mr. Kinder as President and held office for two years.

Mr. Rodman was followed by Mr. John C. Kirkness, who held office until 1955. During this period it was decided to incorporate the Branch and to make a determined effort to secure its finances by building up the membership.

This scheme proved very successful and a large number of Annual and Life Members was secured.

Following the lead of a North Island Branch an approach was made to the farming community to donate a share of the black fleeces in their flocks to the Society. Whether or not the answer is that there are fewer black sheep in the South Island than in the North, a scheme which proved very successful in the North was a complete failure in North Otago.

Nevertheless the Society continued to prosper. More representative country people began to take an interest in the work. Doctors and nurses joined the committee. A paid Secretary was

engaged, Finances were good and more generous help could be given to those in need. Attempts were made to devise ways and means whereby a Field Officer could be engaged. A suggestion that the North Otago Branch become a sub-branch of Dunedin was not favourably received. The annual collection of rags became a very profitable source of income for the Branch, despite many little difficulties in the process.

It was during this period that the Branch decided that all further cases under its care be referred to the public hospital for physiotherapy treatment and at the same time placed on record its grateful thanks to one of its members, Miss S. Kearns, for the splendid work she had done over a period of years in the treatment of crippled children. At the annual meeting in 1955 Mr. H. J. S. Grater took over the presidency until 1959 and during this period the position of the Branch was further consolidated. Public interest widened and more and more people and organisations began to take an active interest in entertaining the children. Gifts were even received from the American Junior Red Cross for North Otago children.

During this period another very successful drive for new members was made under the leadership of Rotarian V. M. Budge, a member of the Branch's Executive.

This further success put the Branch in a very happy financial position and its work went on unhampered. In 1959 Mr. E. M. Freeman was elected President and still occupies the chair. Under his energetic leadership the general care of the children under the supervision of the Branch is carried on.

It may be added that in 1961 Mrs. C. E. Smith became president and Miss S. Kearns and Mrs. J. Meikle vice-presidents. All three ladies had had a long and active interest in the work of the Branch. In their care and with the assistance of an able committee representative of town and country, the important work of caring for crippled children will be carried on faithfully and well.

This humanitarian work described at the inaugural meeting as practical Christianity cannot be continued without constant and generous financial assistance.

Quite recently a generous and anonymous donor added £500 to the funds of the Branch, a proof that some one really approves and appreciates the work that is being done.

SOUTH CANTERBURY

THE SOUTH CANTERBURY BRANCH of the New Zealand Crippled Children's Society was formed at a public meeting held at Timaru on 6th June, 1935, a date which must make this Branch one of the oldest—practically as old as the New Zealand Society, which was established as a result of a decision of a decision of a Rotary Conference held in Timaru a short time before.

The Branch got under way immediately under the presidency of Will Thomas, who was prominent in educational and Rotary circles. Mr. W. Carlton was the first secretary and the original vice-presidents were Dr. J. C. McKenzie and Dr. F. F. A. Ulrich. The first committee was Mrs. V. Dick, F. I. Washbourn, W. D. Campbell, R. W. Simpson, C. F. Clarke, J. M. Dunne, W. H. Walton, H. C. Romans and Rev. Jas. Baird; Auditor, Mr. P. B. Foote.

Mr. F. I. Washbourn attended the conference on 3rd July, 1935, which set up the Central Council of the New Zealand Crippled Children Society.

By the end of the first year there were 31 registrations, at least six of which were urgent and received assistance. Surveys were made and through various agencies registrations of all crippled children in the district was sought. The registrations have now reached over 130, but in the meantime many more cases have passed through the hands of the Branch.

This Branch has been fortunate in having had a succession of very able officers since its inception. The presidents who have guided the Branch's affairs since 1935 have been: Mr. Will Thomas (1935-45); Mr. F. I. Washbourn (1945-47); Dr. F. F. A. Ulrich (1947-51); Mr. George Hill (1951-53); Mr. B. L. Blodorn (1953-1960).

Secretaries have also made splendid contributions to the work of the society. They are listed as follows: Mr. W. Carlton (1935-37); Mr. H. C. Romans (1937-52); Miss I. H. Cowie (1952-54); Miss E. Field (1954); Mr. A. J. Hubbard (1954-60); Mr. E. T. Cochrane (1960).

Special mention must be made to the work of Mr. H. C. Romans, who carried more than his share of the burden for fifteen years. He was not only secretary-treasurer but also acted as field officer, visiting children and their parents in all parts of the district. During the war years funds were low and hard to raise, while many people were prevented from helping him owing to commitments elsewhere. Thanks mainly to Mr. Romans the work went on. It was not until he died suddenly that it was fully realised to what extent he had been the Branch's mainstay. Miss Cowie stepped into the breach, followed by Miss Field.

A big step forward was made in 1952 when Mr. Hubbard was appointed honorary secretary, leaving Miss Field to concentrate on case work as Field Officer.

An occupational and training class was established by Miss Field and this brought up problems of accommodation and transport for the growing numbers. A house property at 26 North Street was purchased and converted to suit the Branch's purposes. The Rotary Club took over the organisation of an appeal for the necessary funds and this provided over £5000. On 3rd November, 1956, the Mayor of Timaru officially opened the new headquarters and class rooms.

Since the rooms were acquired classes have been maintained for various kinds of handwork. Miss Betty Jordan has been honorary instructor since the class was formed and her devoted work has

been a magnificent contribution to the happiness and welfare of many crippled children. She has been helped by others with transport of children, provision of afternoon teas, and assistance in the classes.

In August, 1956, Miss Field had to take extended leave. Miss H. E. Pullar relieved during Miss Field's absence and was subsequently appointed to the position, which she still holds.

The finances have grown into a very healthy state although they have always been adequate for the needs of the day, thanks to the great store of goodwill in the community towards the work of the society. A number of small legacies which have helped immensely, amount to a substantial sum in total. Two large legacies should be recorded, the first to the New Zealand Society by the late Miss E. V. Durand for the benefit of crippled children in the province of Canterbury. The South Canterbury Branch shares in this with the Canterbury Branch. The second legacy came from the late Duncan Kennedy's estate. The Branch now has invested funds, the income from which goes a long way towards meeting its current expenses. At the opportune time these funds will probably be used for capital projects such as establishing a home for crippled children, in which event the income from investments would cease or be reduced.

Membership subscriptions are a minor feature in the finances but the membership is maintained at as high a level as possible to ensure continued widespread interest in crippled children and the Branch's efforts to help them.

In the post-war period a Cerebral Palsy Association was active in South Canterbury. This association brought together the parents of the cerebral palsied children and did much good work in conjunction with this Branch, with which it had close ties. The association organised some excellent public meetings and ran a party each Christmas for the cerebral palsied. Later invitations were extended to all children registered with this Branch. The development of classes by the Branch and the formation of an association by teenage and adult spastics tended to make the work of the Cerebral Palsy Association redundant and it ceased to function. But the Branch is better for the assistance it received from this association during its relatively short existence.

SOUTHLAND

IN COMMON WITH THE majority of the Branches comprising the Crippled Children Society in New Zealand, the Southland Branch was formed in 1935 by the Invercargill Rotary Club.

The foundation of the Branch was well and truly laid by the original executive under the leadership of its first president, the late Mr. S. McC. McDonald. Its first annual report is remarkable

for its record of the far-reaching programme of establishment conducted in that year. Public interest was kindled in every sizeable community throughout the province. Since then the Branch has come in contact with greater numbers and genuine desire to assist is continually shown by the public in a practical way.

From small beginnings, a sub-branch and a network of local committees and representatives, combined with liaison in fitting places, afford a comprehensive coverage over our fields of service.

Over the years 1088 children have come under our care; 352 children are at present on our register. There have been many remarkable recoveries through surgical and medical skill. Perhaps the most outstanding was the case of 19-year-old Peggy, who was transformed from a malformed recluse to normal life in 39 operations. Today Peggy is happily married.

This survey of past years automatically links the name of Miss E. S. Hackworth, F.P.A.N.Z., who as secretary of this Branch was largely responsible in guiding its destiny in Southland from its inception until her sudden passing in 1957. Her undoubted ability and natural human sympathy was unstintingly bestowed in the work beyond all measure of monetary reward.

The Branch's first Field Officer was Sister Janet, succeeded fourteen years ago by Miss Elsie Titchener, who in her time has seen the case numbers increase to three times the number when she was appointed. Where so much depends upon the outlook of workers in this sphere, it has been fortunate that our Field Officer feels that she has entered a calling rather than taken up a job.

The Ladies' Auxiliary Committee is of early origin and voluntarily carried out the field services before we had confidence to venture with a full-time officer. That committee has operated continuously ever since as an aid to the General Provincial Executive in the conduct of outings for the children, organisations of the weekly swimming sessions and clinics, the Christmas party, entertainment and the annual Street Appeal.

The Weekly Swimming Sessions have functioned for twenty years constantly supervised by Mr. O. G. Davis and J. C. Kirkland, assisted by High School Girls. Under this special attention the children find the freedom of movement in the water that normal persons enjoy on land. Many have qualified in swimming tests over various distances. Several have risen to provincial championship and at least one rose to N.Z. championship status.

By the generosity of the late Mr. J. D. Gilmore, an ex-President of the Branch, it was able to open a holiday home on the shores of Lake Wakatipu at Queenstown in 1957 for the benefit of families where a severely crippled child precludes the opportunity of regular relaxation. Many have enjoyed a sojourn there. A further substantial gift from the same gentleman placed us in a position to secure our own Headquarters in Invercargill.

Close collaboration is maintained with other charitable organi-

sations in our area, particularly where our interests converge. Public sympathy in the work of the Branch is strong and it is hoped it will always be worthy of the unfailing practical support from city and country districts it has enjoyed in the past. The ready co-operation of our sister branches throughout the Dominion, and the assistance of the National Executive at all times has been accepted with great satisfaction.

SOUTH TARANAKI

IN 1935 A PUBLIC meeting was convened by the Rotary Club of Hawera with Fred Horner, then President, in the chair. It was decided to form a Branch to be known as the N.Z. Crippled Children's Society, South Taranaki Branch.

Mr. Jas. Edmonston was elected President and Mr. Alex Wilson Secretary, whilst Mr. Bill Fyfe carried out the duties of Hon. Field Officer.

Subsequently Mr. R. H. Leece, who had been a member of the committee, was elected President and has continued in that position ever since, with the exception of one year. Following Mr. Wilson's death, Mr. L. O. Hooker undertook the work of Secretary and Welfare Officer.

For some time surgical footwear caused a bottleneck in the work of the Branch and whilst the excellence of the work being done by Wellington, Wanganui and New Plymouth was greatly appreciated, delays occasioned a deal of worry and trouble for the Branch and the parents of children concerned. Ultimately a sub-committee (Messrs. Leece, Dixon and Hooker) approached the Hawera Hospital Board with the suggestion that the board appoint a surgical footwear specialist to their staff. The board inclined to the opinion that there would be insufficient work but would reconsider the matter if Stratford and Patea Hospital Boards were agreeable to join. The sub-committee visited Stratford and Patea and it is pleasing to record that both Hospital Boards agreed to the proposals put forward by this Branch; consequently the Hawera Board acquiesced and today the arrangement is still functioning with three of a staff in charge of Mr. J. L. Andre.

Following Mr. Hooker's death Mrs. E. H. Linnell undertook the work of Hon. Field Officer and after her death Mrs. Eric Pacey carried on the duties until Mrs. D. Atmore accepted the position. Mrs. M. M. Thomson was later appointed to this important post following Mrs. Atmore's visit overseas. On her resignation she was replaced by Mrs. R. G. Mills, who is now enthusiastically engaged in the work.

Mr. J. F. Langridge has been carrying out the secretarial work for some time now after taking over from Mr. J. W. Archbold.

The work of the Branch has grown steadily over the years, and this year there are 139 cases on its register.

STRATFORD

AT A PUBLIC MEETING held in Stratford on 22nd February, 1937, when Mr. J. W. McMillan was in the chair and fifteen other persons were present, it was decided to form a Branch of N.Z. Crippled Children Society. The officers elected were: President, Mr. J. W. McMillan; Vice-Presidents, Dr. W. Brown (Superintendent at the Stratford Public Hospital) and Mr. A. H. R. Amess (Principal of the Stratford Technical High School). The Executive elected were: Mrs. G. Lamplough, the Rev. J. Paterson, Messrs. W. Peick, H. S. Sinclair and N. H. Moss. Mr. F. E. Clarke, who had been closely associated with the movement at Hawera, was elected Honorary Secretary.

The area in which the Branch was to operate was that covered by the Stratford Hospital Board. At the end of the first year twenty cases had been reported. The Stratford Rotary Club helped by their members joining the Branch and elected at least one member on the executive.

In the next year of operations, Mr. Percy Thomson was elected president and the number of patients on the register was twenty. Mr. Thomson vacated the presidential chair in 1943 and Mr. A. H. R. Amess took over the reins. In this year, as there were very few cases coming forward, there was a suggestion for amalgamation with the Hawera Branch. Dr. C. Lambert, who was then Superintendent of the Public Hospital, supported by Mr. T. L. Penn, the hospital secretary, felt that the Branch should have its separate identity and the Branch continued to function.

In the year 1944 the first travelling clinic was conducted under Mr. W. Robertson, Orthopaedic Specialist, of Wellington, to be succeeded later on by Mr. J. K. Cunninghame. Seventeen cases only were on the register. In the subsequent year, Orthopaedic Clinics were conducted at the Stratford Public Hospital and 43 cases remained on the register in March, 1945.

In 1946 Mr. J. R. Drown was elected president and held office until 5th September, 1951, when Mr. J. D. Law, the present chairman, was elected president of the Branch. Dr. Lawrie became Honorary Medical adviser and held office until 1957, when Dr. Carey Smith was appointed.

The Branch celebrated its 21st birthday on the 15th July, 1958. In its 22nd Annual Report for the year ended 31st March, 1959, it was stated that there are now 120 cases on the register (69 male and 51 female). Mrs. H. S. Sinclair has acted as Honorary Welfare Officer and has carried out her duties in a very patient and loyal manner.

Quarterly Orthopaedic Clinics have been held at the Public Hospital since 1957, and have been conducted by Mr. A. R. Cockerell, of Wanganui.

Financial support has been generously given by local sympathisers and during 1959 one donation of £100 was made anonymously.

It is interesting to note that Mr. F. E. Clarke has been the only secretary of the Branch.

There is an increasing demand for the services of the Branch, especially by way of grants for remedial footwear, and also for travelling expenses. The continued support of public bodies such as the W.D.F.F. has given great encouragement to the executive of the Branch.

TAURANGA

IT WAS NOT UNTIL NEARLY ten years after the New Zealand Crippled Children Society was formed that the Auckland Branch decided to set up a Sub-Branch at Tauranga in November, 1944. The Tauranga Sub-Branch, assisted by a number of public-spirited citizens, held its first meeting in November of the same year under the chairmanship of the Rev. L. K. Bryan, and Mrs. F. N. Christian as the first hon. secretary. The area was serviced by regular visits from the Field Officers of the Auckland Branch. The late Mr. Selwyn Morris, Orthopaedic Surgeon of Auckland, played a major part on the medical side of the Sub-Branch, in the early days and in subsequent years. The Sub-Branch in Tauranga made slow progress until 1947, when a special meeting under the chairmanship of the Rev. L. K. Bryan decided to ask the Executive Council in Wellington for Branch status, which the Council granted.

The Tauranga Branch of the New Zealand Society was duly incorporated and held its first meeting as a Branch on 19th June, 1947. The first president was the Rev. A. A. Bensley. The Branch was given the area of the Tauranga County which extends to Te Puke and district in the East and Kati Kati and district in the West. At the close of the first year the Branch had 75 annual members. Mrs. C. Ford, formerly of the Auckland Branch, was appointed the first part-time Field Officer in the same year.

The Branch made slow but steady progress, and it was not until 1953 that its executive decided to conduct an all-out drive for a greater membership and to give a wider service to crippled children in the area. Mr. James Mowat, president of the Branch, asked the Rotary Club of Tauranga to assist and Mr. S. O. Guinness, of that club, gathered 105 new annual members, thus bringing the membership of the Branch from 175 to 280 annual members. A band of willing workers under the Field Officer, Mrs. T. D. Johnson, reorganised the services to the children.

Since this date the Branch has grown from strength to strength. In late 1957 by prudent saving and careful handling of the finances

of the Branch, it was able to purchase 33 Cameron Road, Tauranga, as its headquarters. Now from its own home the Branch gives a first-class service to the children, and the virile executive has the full support of the appreciative public of Tauranga.

It could be said that although the Branch's progress has been slow from its inception, the foundation stones were truly laid by its early executives. Tribute is paid to them for the pioneering work, of which records show very little.

The Tauranga Branch is justly proud of its present position and organisation and the area covered is very crippled children minded, which denotes the success of any Branch! It recently joined the Auckland Branch in a provincial wide campaign for more annual members. This resulted in the membership being doubled and it now stands at 1100.

The policy of the Branch is, the children first, the Field Officer second, and the Branch executive last. The motto of the Branch is, "We must not let go."

WAIRARAPA

ON 22nd AUGUST, 1935, the Masterton Rotary Club incorporated the Wairarapa Branch of the New Zealand Society for the Assistance of Crippled Children.

On 3rd September, 1935, Mr. T. Jordan, then Mayor of Masterton, presided at a public meeting held in Masterton and the organisation and work of the Branch was effectively set under way. Forty-one people present at the meeting took up membership of the new body and elected its first officers.

Mr. S. L. P. Free was elected president, Mr. E. M. Hodder vice-president, Mr. H. A. R. Dunderdale secretary-treasurer, Mr. D. B. Curry, auditor, and Messrs. Hart, Daniell and Hart, Solicitors. Additionally, it was decided that the Mayors of Boroughs and the Chairmen of Counties in the Wairarapa Hospital Board area be elected as vice-presidents.

The minutes of the public meeting record that particular thanks were due to the Masterton Rotary Club and to Messrs. Hodder, Dunderdale and C. M. Bowden for the work which had been carried out leading up to the formation of the Branch.

The name of the Society was changed on 24th September, 1936, to the New Zealand Crippled Children Society, Wairarapa Branch (Inc.) and subsequently, on 22nd May, 1941, the Branch adopted its present name.

Early administrators devoted their first efforts to locating and recording the case histories of crippled children in the district. Branch records indicate the many hours spent by the first officials on this work. The task of raising the finance necessary to assist the children soon followed.

Records show that long and steadfast service has been rendered to the Branch by many people, only some of whom is it practicable to herein mention.

Mr. Free remained president up to 1945, when he was appointed to the then created office of patron, a position he held until his death. At the same time, Mr. Hodder, who from the beginning had acted as chairman of the executive committee, was elected president—a position he held up to 1958—when his temporary absence overseas precluded him from standing for re-election, but he was later elected patron. Mr. Hodder was succeeded by Mr. H. Sharples, who still holds that position.

In 1938 the firm of Dunderdale and Gray were appointed joint Secretaries and Treasurers and Mr. F. L. Gray started on what was to be a most valuable contribution to the work and progress of the Branch. Mr. Gray resigned in 1958 but his practical support and sympathy still continues. He was followed by Mr. A. G. Earl, who held office until 1960. The present Secretary and Treasurer is Mr. Kerry Cheer.

The Branch has been well served by its Field Officers, Mrs. S. N. Kilgour (1940-1946), Mrs. H. P. Harrison (1946-1950), Miss D. Allen (1950-1952), Miss M. Nicholls (1952-1957) and Mrs. C. W. Durie (1957-) and up to 31/3/61—these officers had watched over the progress of 1940 cases, of which the files record 946 as cured.

The Field Officers have been the spearheads of the Branch. Their devotion to their work is best typified by this extract from the minutes of an executive meeting held on 13th February, 1956, recording the passing of Mrs. S. N. Kilgour.

"Appointed on 17th October, 1938 as the first Welfare Officer for this Branch, elected to the executive in 1946 and continuing as a member of it until 31st March, 1955, Mrs. Kilgour devoted 16½ years of service for Crippled Children. During that time the Branch's work has grown tremendously and Mrs. Kilgour by her devotion, perseverance and enthusiasm was largely responsible for putting the Branch on the firm foundation that exists today. Crippled Children, parents members and all with whom she came in contact will mourn her passing and remember the good work so cheerfully carried out by her."

Over the years, nearly £1400 has been expended on benefits and assistance. At 31st March, 1960, 278 cases were receiving attention. Branch officials have always striven to obtain and retain the goodwill of the general public—without whose generosity the work of the Branch would not be possible. Wairarapa folk have been magnificent in its support. Membership at 31st March, 1960, stood at 359 Life Members and 1133 Annual Members.

The results of much honorary labour in past years are now apparent. A much greater percentage of cases is being classed as "cured"—parents and the medical profession have learned to appreciate the work of the Branch and handicapped children are

now being registered at an early age, i.e. at an age when most beneficial results are likely to accrue from remedial action to correct or alleviate any apparent crippling tendency.

The Orthopaedic Clinics instituted by the Branch in 1938 play a most important part in its successful operations.

Assisting the welfare of crippled children presents many difficulties—but at all times—the faith and appeal of the children themselves has acted as an inspiration and a spur to the many who over the years have given voluntarily of their time and talents in continuing and extending the services rendered by the Branch.

The present administrators are supremely confident that the goodwill and co-operation now being extended to the Branch will continue, and that crippled children will continue to receive the assistance from society that is their due.

WANGANUI

IN APRIL, 1935, A public meeting was held in the Council Chambers, presided over by the Mayor, Mr. Graham Armstrong, to consider the formation of a Wanganui Branch of the New Zealand Crippled Children Society.

It was agreed to form a Branch and the following officers were elected: President, Mr. N. G. Armstrong; Vice-Presidents, Messrs. R. G. Talboys, I. E. Newton and Miss M. Newcombe; Secretary, Mr. B. R. Dobbs; Treasurer, Miss I. Soberg, and an Executive of nine.

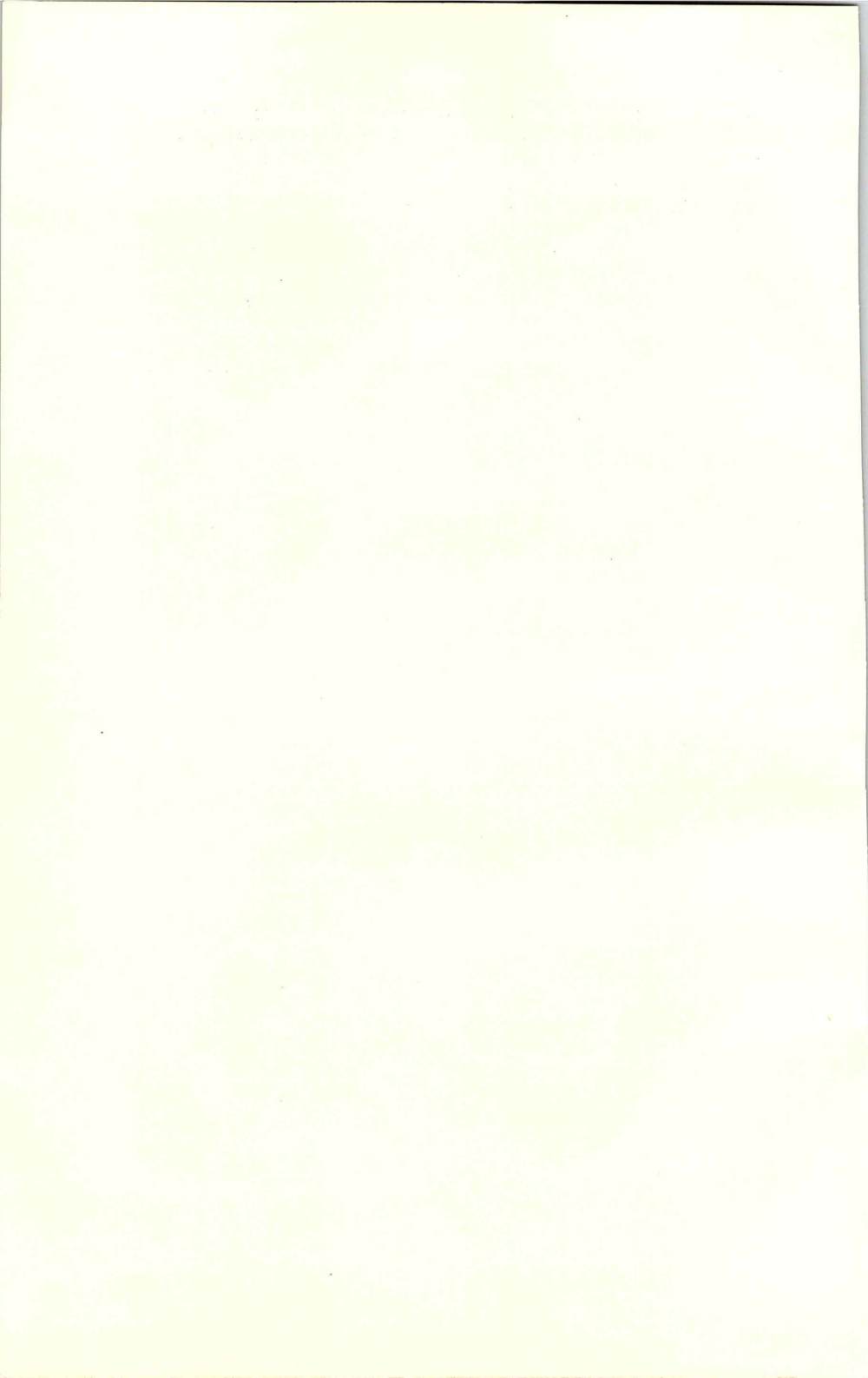
By the end of June, 1936, forty cases had been notified, and the Branch had a membership of 36 and six Life Members.

In August, 1937, Miss Enid Aitken was appointed Welfare Officer, to work in co-operation with the Palmerston North Branch until they finally appointed their own Welfare Officer.

In May, 1938, Dr. G. J. Adams was elected as President as Mr. Armstrong did not seek re-election. In October, Mr. Eric Lind was appointed Secretary, a position he still holds. (N.B.—Mr. Lind retired in July, 1961, after 23 years' service, and was succeeded by Mr. Robert C. Cook.)

During 1941, the Branch promoted a Handwork Competition open to all children registered throughout New Zealand. This competition has been an annual affair and is supported by Branches from North Auckland to Southland and creates a considerable interest when entries are displayed in a local shop window.

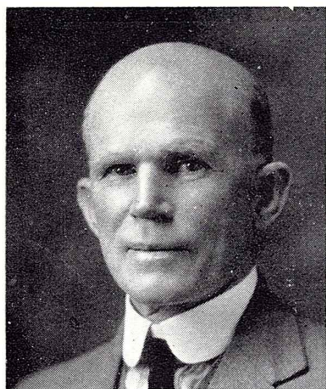
In 1942 the work was extended to Marton, where a sub-branch was formed to ensure that every crippled child in the district was receiving the very best of medical care.





MR. AND MRS. W. R. WILSON
Donors of their home at Takapuna, Auckland, as the "Wilson Home for Crippled Children."

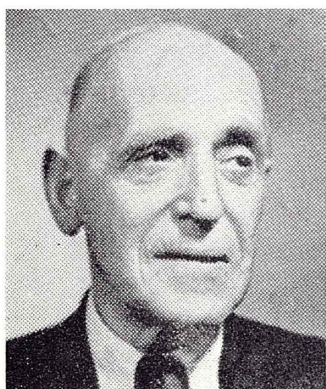
PROMINENT ROTARIAN FOUNDERS OF THE
SOCIETY



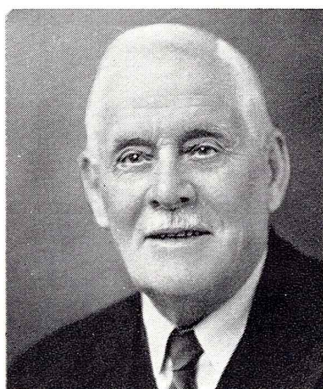
MR. T. C. LIST



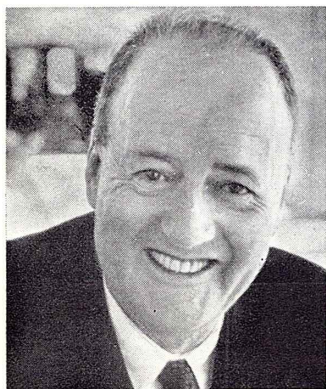
MR. L. T. WATKINS



MR. V. JACOBS



MR. H. VALDER



MR. H. GUTHRIE



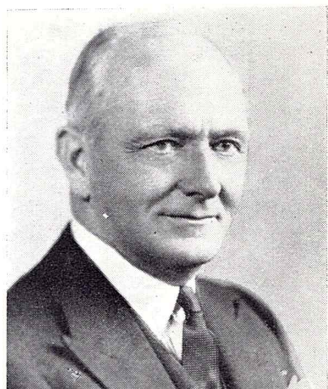
MR. MALCOLM FRASER

SOME LEADERS AND VOLUNTARY OFFICERS

1935 - 1960



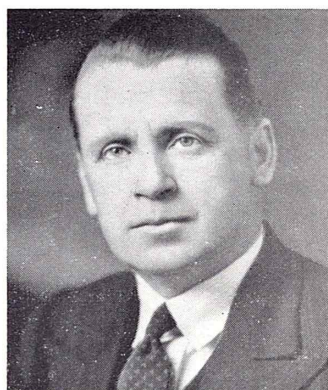
HON. MR. JUSTICE (now Sir David)
SMITH



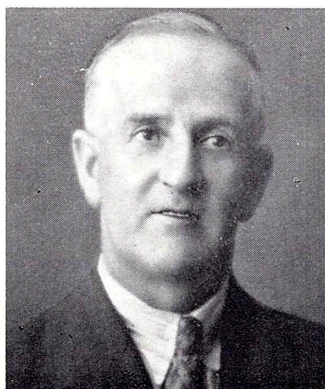
SIR JOHN ILOTT



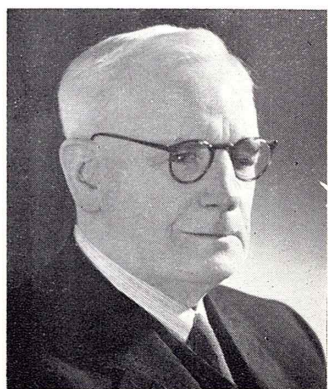
SIR ALEXANDER GILLIES



MR. W. G. BLACK



MR. G. J. PARK, O.B.E.



MR. E. W. HUNT

SOME LEADERS AND VOLUNTARY OFFICERS

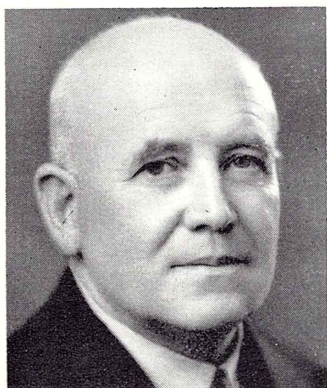
1935 - 1960



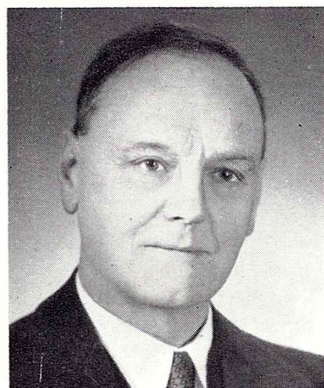
MR. F. CAMPBELL



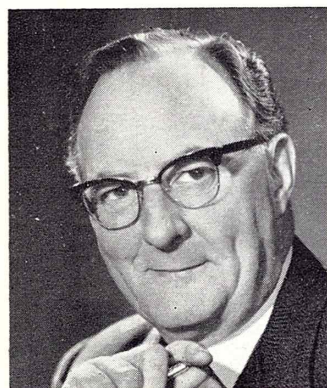
MR. G. K. HANSARD



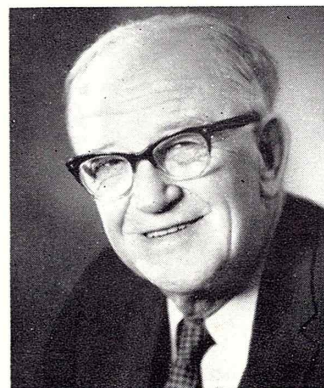
MR. J. GILMORE



MR. F. C. SPRATT



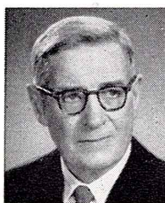
MR. H. T. SPEIGHT



MR. L. K. G. STEVEN

FIRST ELECTED NATIONAL COUNCIL

1935



HON. MR. JUSTICE (now
Sir) DAVID SMITH
President



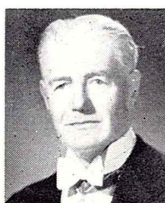
MR. F. CAMPBELL
Chairman of Executive



SIR JOHN ILOTT
Rotary Governor when
Society formed



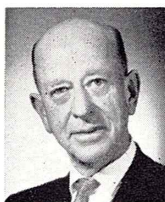
SIR ALEXANDER GILLIES



DR. (subsequently Sir)
FREDERICK BOWERBANK



SIR ALEXANDER ROBERTS



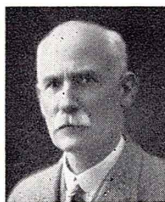
MR. W. H. NANKERVIS
Hon. Auditor



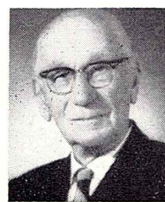
MR. MALCOLM FRASER
Hon. Secretary



MR. E. W. HUNT
Hon. Treasurer



MR. S. L. P. FREE



MR. H. E. ANDERSON
President
Wellington Rotary Club



MR. F. C. SPRATT
Hon. Solicitor

EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

1960



MR. G. K. HANSARD
Chairman



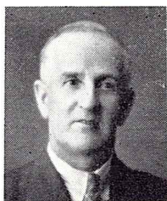
SIR CHARLES NORWOOD
President



SIR JOHN ILOTT
Deputy Chairman



SIR ALEXANDER GILLIES



MR. G. J. PARK, O.B.E.



MR. W. N. NORWOOD



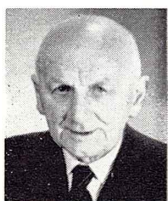
MR. E. M. HODDER



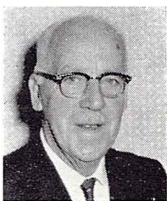
MR. J. L. SUTTON



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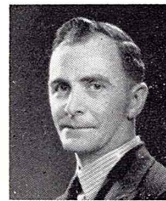


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MR. H. E. YOUNG

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1937-1940
Secretary 1940-1960



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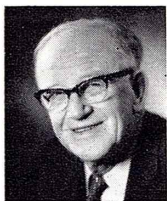
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Medical Adviser.

CANTERBURY-WESTLAND



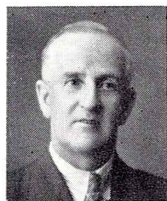
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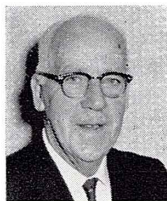
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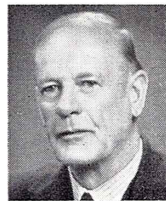
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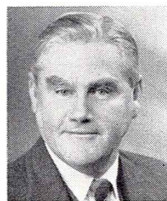
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SOUTHLAND



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Active committeeman and
member of first National
Executive.

SOME BRANCH LEADERS AND HONORARY OFFICIALS

1935 - 1960

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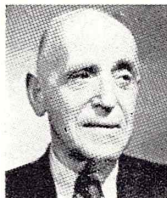
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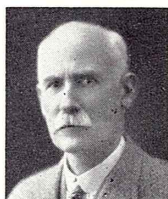
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WAIRARAPA



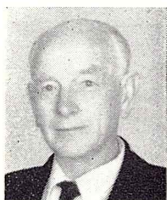
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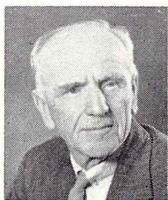
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SOUTH TARANAKI



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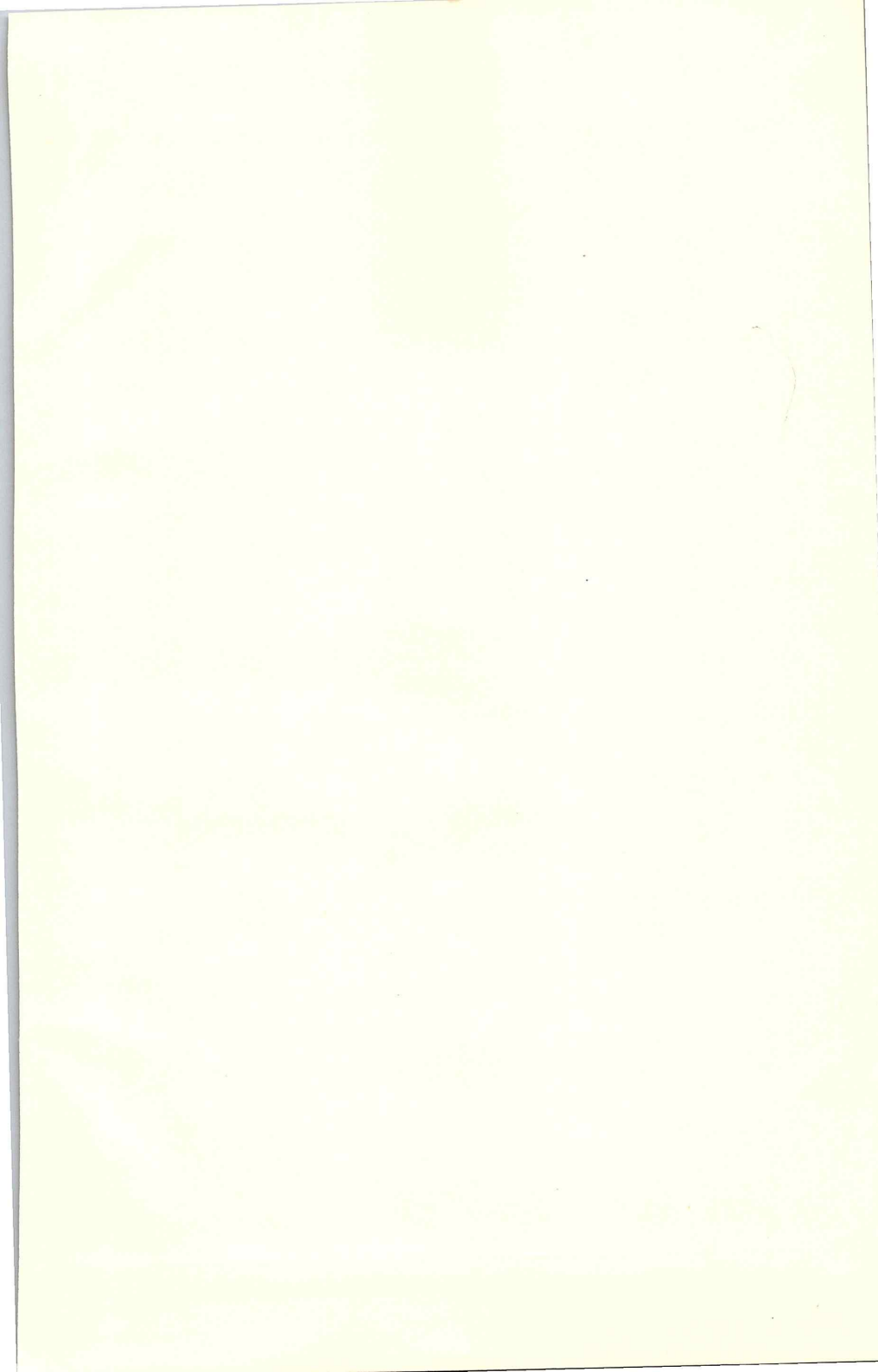


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